

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

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FERCY E. WATKINS, Registrar.
University College, Cardiff, August 5, 1911.

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LAURENCE GOMME, Clerk of the London County Council.

Education Office, Victoria Embankment, W.C.

August 5, 1911.

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Education Office, Victoria Embankment, W.C.

August 5, 1911.

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By Order of the Committee.

F. A. S. W. CROOK, Secretary.

Caston House, Westminister, S.W., August 15, 1911.

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LITERATURE

Off the Main Track. By Stanley Portal Hyatt. (Werner Laurie.)

MR. HYATT remarks incidentally that he "might have put a whole quantity of controversial matter into this book," but has refrained, having "given up all forms of fighting now." What he could be if he were controversial, or, as he puts it elsewhere, "if I can manage to mix a little gall with my ink," the imagination is unable to conjecture. Mr. Hyatt is not a man with a grievance—he is a man with so many grievances that we have failed to reckon them; and his non-controversial language about Afrikaners, "Little Englanders," the inhabitants of some unnamed town near Ipswich where he once had the misfortune to settle, and other persons who have incurred his displeasure, would be actionable were it applied to individuals. But he knows how to write, and, as might be expected of a good hater possessed of the literary faculty, produces entertaining reading. He has, however, written in some haste—or, it may be, that the book is composed of detached essays which have appeared at various times and in different periodicals. One of these reasons may account for some repetitions and for one or two slight inconsistencies, e.g., the "Little Englander" fares somewhat better on p. 228 than he does on p. 66, where we find there is not a pin to choose between him and the Imperialist

described in the later passage as inferior to him.

Mr. Hyatt's grievance against the Chartered Company we believe to be just, but we wish he had stated it a little more consecutively and coherently, though perhaps he thinks he has already done what is required in that very vigorous piece of work "The Land of Promises." The chapter entitled "The Heathen in his Blindness" contains some very "straight talk" on the subject of the Company's native policy. One is glad to have the testimony of a man whom no one can accuse of a sentimental sympathy with the natives, to the iniquities of the "Labour Bureau" system (pp. 48-9); and Mr. Hyatt may be congratulated on accomplishing a good work when he protested against the proposed raising of the hut-tax from 10s. to 2l. We suppose it was his action in this affair that led to his being threatened (as stated on p. 94) with "a shot in the darkness"; but one would like to know the particulars.

In general, Mr. Hyatt's attitude towards the natives with whom he has been in personal contact is fair, and even friendly. Perhaps he is a little too sweeping in his description of the Mashona's personal habits—their near relatives in Nyasaland are not backward in washing themselves when water is reasonably accessible, and it is certainly too much to say that no native huts are ever cleaned out. But this and the similar generalizations which precede and follow it may pass as rhetoric, along with his summing-up of the Basuto as "intelligent and dangerous," and the Zulus as "boastful and indolent." He passes from the contemplation of these and some other "comparatively superficial qualities" to wrestle with the half-truth dear to a certain class of writer on Africa:—

"They strike the white man who knows the native superficially, who has only seen him in the towns or on the mines, who knows him merely in his relations with the ruling race; but behind these qualities, far more important than these qualities, is that indefinable something which forms the great difference between African and European. I cannot explain what it is. It has always baffled me completely. It is as elusive as it is apparent. You know that the whole outlook on life of the native is totally different from our own, yet after years of experience of him, you cannot say what his outlook is. The more you know him, the more convinced you become that you will never understand him. He is not mysterious, in the ordinary sense of the word; 'baffling' is the only term I know to apply to him."

This is precisely the sort of language one hears used by more or less well-intentioned people about the Irish, or working-men, or rustics, or that vague entity "the poor." Dr. Weule—not a specially profound observer psychologically,—found that the East African native possessed, broadly, the characteristics of the European peasant—his caution, his "pawky" shrewdness, his distrust of strangers, and the curious secretiveness which results from it. Human nature

generally acts in the same way under like conditions; the difficulty lies in understanding the conditions.

Mr. Hyatt, however, evidently understands his natives sufficiently for practical working purposes. His excellent remarks on carriers (pp. 259-61) show that he knows how to treat them; and if, as we gather, he also practised what he knew, his relations with them must have been happier than they appear to be with the majority of his fellow-Europeans. As to native women, we feel impelled to quote the following passage, on account of the injustice frequently done to them, and also because Mr. Hyatt seems to have missed an essential factor in the situation

"Because I have written plainly of half-castes, I do not wish to imply that the native women are naturally immoral. Far from that. In the kraals the standard of morality is very much higher than amongst the whites in the townships, and in the average village it is by no means easy—in fact it is often impossible—for a white man to get possession of a native girl; but, unfortunately, it is always easy to secure one in the neighbourhood of the mission stations. The moment a native woman is taught to wear clothes, she seems to develop immoral tendencies, or it may be that those with such tendencies gravitate to the missions."

This last may certainly happen, just as men wishing to escape the restraints of tribal law or the just punishment of their crimes have often been injudiciously welcomed at mission stations. This was the substance of the complaint of the Zulu chiefs to Mr. Fynney in 1877. But there is also the undoubted fact that some missionary ladies, animated by the best intentions, but incapable of recognizing the existence of modesty apart from European clothing, have destroyed the self-respect of native girls—with the results indicated above.

The most enjoyable parts of the book are those dealing with animals, whether game, "schelm" (a more comprehensive term than "vermin," as may be gathered from the chapter which bears it as a heading), or trek-oxen. The lion, for which Mr. Hyatt has not a good word, comes high up in the list of "schelms." He gives two instances of lions being killed by cattle—one of them not only gored, but also tossed over the kraal fence, single-handed (or rather single-horned), by a Mashona bull. This extraordinary story, as Mr. Hyatt rightly calls it, has, he tells us, been received with incredulity, but it contains nothing intrinsically improbable.

We may conclude with one or two remarks on points of detail. The unidentified black-and-white bird (p. 168) whose "mission in life appears to be to dig holes in the ground and murmur loudly 'Doom, doom,'" is surely the ground hornbill—the *Insingizi* of the Zulus and *Bromvoel* of the Boers. We are told (p. 203) that "a good many Kaffirs regarded the honey-bird as a schelm," and "believed that, as often as not, the bird would lead them to a snake—that he

was, in fact, in league with the snakes." The belief in this form is new to us: we cannot help wondering if Mr. Hyatt has misunderstood the story of the bird's revenge on those who stint him of his due, after finding the honeycomb under his guidance. Finally, on p. 30 the author is justly severe on those who call the Ma-hlanganu "Shangaans"; yet he is not much nearer the mark with "the proper term 'Ma-Tchangana.'"

The Oxyrhynchus Papyri. Edited, with Translations and Notes, by A. S. Hunt, Litt.D. Part VIII. (Egypt Exploration Fund.)

Catalogue of the Greek Papyri in the John Rylands Library. Edited by A. S. Hunt, Litt.D. (Manchester University Press.)

PAPYRUS publications are rapidly becoming a library in themselves. Since the epoch-making publication of the Petrie collection by the Royal Irish Academy (1890-93), which was the first adequate reproduction of these yellow texts by photography, there have been issued volumes on texts in Geneva, Lille, Berlin, Heidelberg, &c., not to speak of private collections—the Reinach, Rylands, &c. But, alas! in most of them we have only poor and brief scraps of Greek text, buried in a huge commentary, full of learning and ingenuity, but after all adding very little to our knowledge of Hellenism as a world-movement. A few priceless texts, notably that of Bacchylides, excite in us the hope that any day may bring forth another great surprise; but on the whole it must frankly be confessed that the last twenty years have not fulfilled our expectations. Two general lessons we have been taught, and it is worth while to enforce them here.

In the first place, there is a growing certainty not only that almost all the greatest Greek authors have been preserved, but also that of their works those surviving in our mediæval MSS. were the best. There are, however, some qualifications to be made. The few scraps of Sappho recovered seem to confirm the tradition that she was among the highest of the poets, and perhaps other lyric bards may have been her worthy rivals. But it would not be a surprise if Alcæus were no better than the translations of Horace, just as the large fragments of Menander do not present us with anything better than Terence. The latter are, indeed, very disappointing in that out of some 1,500 lines there is not a single apophthegm worth quoting by itself. Yet this was hitherto supposed to be Menander's peculiar excellence, corroborated by hundreds of such lines collected in the volumes of the fragments of Greek comedy.

The second lesson is equally important. The early fragments of extant authors prove to us that our MS. tradition through the ages is sound: the Herodotus, the

Plato, the Demosthenes of the second century B.C. are the very authors that we now possess. There are, naturally, small variations of a letter here or a word there, but there is not the smallest doubt or difficulty in identifying chapter and verse of any extant author that we meet in early papyri. The surprise, if any, is that the 'Phædo' or the 'Laches' of the third century B.C. (in the Petrie papyri) should be so literally the same as our MSS. of the tenth century. There is, of course, room for quarrels among the critics. To some the variants indicate a better text, to others a worse. But to the literary man, even the most fastidious, these little variations are of no importance.

An exception must be made in the case of Homer. There is evidence that up to the days of the Alexandrian critics, who have always been regarded as the creators of critical editions, the text of the 'Iliad' was in a somewhat fluid condition, and this is shown by the many lines found in Ptolemaic texts which have disappeared from our present vulgate—nay, rather, from the vulgate of the age succeeding Aristarchus. There seems to us no doubt, in spite of the vehement opposition of some German critics, that the Alexandrians did a great work in comparing, revising, purifying the various city and private texts, and so in producing an authoritative edition, to which we owe our present Homer.

We pass from these general considerations to the volumes before us, which illustrate them by their cumulative evidence. They are another link in the long chain of obligations wherewith Dr. Hunt has bound the classical world to show him gratitude and respect. He has lost indeed, for the present, the help of his admirable colleague Dr. Grenfell; he has lost for ever that of his greatest of advisers, the admirable Friedrich Blass, yet he has by his own ability and experience, aided by the brilliant scholar who now dominates Greek in Berlin, produced two volumes quite worthy to rank with their many great predecessors.

The materials he has selected for this instalment of the Oxyrhynchus papyri are both various and curious, though more calculated to exercise the critic, than to delight the lover, of Greek literature. To take the novelties first, he has supplied fragments from the lyric effusions of the Cynic Cercidas. Cynic and lyric are to us an unnatural combination, and the result, as might be anticipated, is very bad poetry. Timotheus had betrayed to us that for a musical performance by a great virtuoso the Greeks could tolerate a libretto as bad as those of modern operas. Cercidas is no better. Because the real poets had felt in their language an extraordinary power for the formation of complex epithets, this man chose to invent outlandish compounds, sometimes two in a line, which are only fit for a comic poet, and not particularly apt even in such diction. We feel that he was following older lyrical

models, and following them badly. All that can be said in his favour, and indeed all that can be known about him, is told by Dr. Hunt, and he will thus add a new page to the histories of Greek literature.

We would willingly give the whole of this poet for another page or two of the Satyric drama, which comes next in the volume. We have here only a short passage, wherein the chorus describe their qualifications as a bridegroom (*multi in uno*), but it is in really classical Greek; and, though we cannot share Dr. Hunt's confidence that the style is not that of Æschylus or Euripides, but may be that of Sophocles, here at all events was a scrap worth finding.

Passages from two commentaries on the 'Iliad'—one of the school of Aristarchus, the other not so—are curious evidences how dull may be the exposition of a masterpiece. We learn from these, which correspond in character to the scholia in our MSS., that the profession of pedant-pedagogue is older than the Christian era. The Aristarchan commentary, which rejects, or vindicates lines as being consistent or not with the practice of "the poet," assumes, as was well known long ago, that one poet was not the collector and arranger, but the actual author of both 'Iliad' and 'Odyssey.' We are quite ready to believe that it required a poet of genius to bring together the material of each of the poems, and give them artistic unity; but he did it as a poet, not as an Alexandrian critic, and was regardless of petty inconsistencies. The second commentary is grammatically interesting as supplying classical authorities for a frequent hesitation whether to treat words as being of the second or the third declension, or at least for a variation in use.

With regard to the former of these fragments, we surprise Dr. Hunt in a logical looseness which is not unknown among folk-lore experts, but rare in this careful series of studies. We are told at the outset of the commentary on the scholia that the "semi-cursive hand may be assigned to about the middle of the first century B.C.," and it is added, "Palæographical material for that period is still very scanty"; yet in the next page we read, "but the papyrus must on account of its date be independent of Aristonicus and of Didymus, both of whom flourished under Augustus," viz., early in the first century A.D. The only other criticism we have to make is that Dr. Hunt calls the text of the Cercidas slightly inclined columns, whereas his facsimile makes them appear as upright as any writing can be.

If we do not dilate upon the large number of theological and Homeric scraps in the volume, it is because to the average scholar they offer no novelty, while they amply confirm our opening statements. All these texts show that we have a sound tradition for our Bible and our classics; they also show, however, that the evidence of late and discredited MSS. is not

lightly to be set aside when they afford a remarkable variant, for such readings are now frequently found to have at least very old papyrus authority. Our other general depreciation of what the Middle Ages did not preserve is illustrated by the fragment from the poet Pancrates on a hunting adventure of Hadrian and Antinous. In spite of his diligent archaism, the great emperor seems to have tolerated feeble court poets.

The latter part of this comprehensive book includes a large selection of business documents, which are admirable evidence regarding the Greek spoken in Egypt; several of them are also from the first century A.D.—a period for which our paleographical evidence is very scanty. We know the script of the third century B.C. far more accurately than that of 200 or 300 years later. The business documents of Roman and of Byzantine Egypt will, however, never interest any but specialists, and we almost think that we have seen more than enough of them. We will make an exception of the private correspondence, which, where it is not on mere business, sometimes contains social points, and, in any case, shows what the culture and the interests were of Greek Egyptians or Egyptian Greeks in the centuries following the Roman conquest of the country.

The other instalment of papyrus literature is of the same general character as that we have been discussing; it has the same editor, the same arrangement, the same merits and defects, if a short-coming in interest can be called a defect. It is noteworthy for the large quantities of Homeric text it displays; still more for an early vellum copy of the 'Odyssey' which constitutes a considerable part of the volume. As usual, the text of all these pieces is our vulgate, with occasional slips or even variants preserved in mediæval MSS. of second-rate value. If any other than Dr. Hunt ticketed these scraps with dates not including more than a generation, we should be disposed to question his *ipse dixit*; but he is so careful a judge, and has such enormous experience, that we hesitate to differ from him. Thus a physiological tract, of which fragments are reproduced on plate 7 in an admirable manner, and which Dr. Hunt dates early in the first century B.C., might, we think, have been taken as belonging to the late second century just as well.

There is included an astronomical treatise which owes its interpretation to the profound knowledge of Prof. Smyly: to most editors it would have been an impossible problem. There are also many heterogeneous authors represented in the volume, but all of them so scantily that it taxes the editor's ingenuity to say what they are concerned with, and on the whole the outcome is not very considerable.

The Librarian's introductory note speaks of the Althorp Library as being acquired "to form part of the equipment of the

present building, which was then (1892) in course of construction," and states that "the present magnificence and special character of the collection" were given to it by the purchase of Lord Crawford's collection in 1901. The writer does not clearly distinguish between MSS. and printed books. In the former the Althorp Library was not rich; but as regards printed books its rare treasures were such that in itself it always formed a unique and splendid library, and no addition of Balinese, Tibetan, Bugi, and Kawi texts, *et hoc genus omne*, could increase the dignity of a collection which has, we believe, over fifty Caxtons, and a great number of the finest incunabula of Latin and Greek printing. The history of Greek printing, for example, from the days when a blank was left for the printer or bookseller to write in Greek quotations in a Latin text, to the ruin of early Greek printing by Aldus, who copied fourteenth-century instead of tenth-century models—all this lies ready for the student in the Althorp Library. We gladly add that the building in which these treasures, both printed and MS., are housed, is one of the most beautiful modern Gothic buildings in England.

We feel bound to say in conclusion a word upon the excellence of the plates appended to both these volumes. Specimens of dated texts are now increasing in number so rapidly that in a few years we shall be able to write a history of early Greek paleography of which our predecessors could not have dreamt. We find, too, that the centuries are to be distinguished just as they are in the English writing of the last 500 years. Each generation has its peculiarities, and if we cannot draw the line very closely, it is at least certain that Ptolemaic and Roman Egypt are to be distinguished at first sight by their handwritings. Presently we may get parallels for the uncials of the early Gospels which will end the uncertainty regarding the Vatican and Sinaitic MSS., and so our knowledge will grow, larger, safer, and, we trust, more modest.

The Encyclopædia Britannica Index. (Cambridge University Press.)

EVERY ONE who was using 'The Encyclopædia Britannica' during the first half of this year felt the want of the promised Index. It is true that the present edition of the famous work is not cast in the form of general articles to anything like the degree of earlier issues. The Ninth Edition really consisted in the main of immense essays and treatises. Of the so-called Tenth we prefer not to speak.

In the new edition there are 40,000 articles under separate headings; yet in each of these there are numerous names and subjects mentioned which might properly have had each a heading of its own, if such a plan had been compatible with reasonable ideas of space. Until

the Index appeared there was often difficulty in deciding under what heading to look for a subordinate name. How numerous such wants were may be realized when it is noted that there are 500,000 heads in the Index to the 40,000 articles. In other words, there were on an average a dozen things that we might want to find in each article, and no means, short of actual experiment, of determining under what heading they might be found.

The Index—apart from a very useful new feature, the Classified Table of Contents, 70 pages long—runs to nearly 4,400 closely printed columns, and is a model of well-considered compactness. The numerous abbreviations are necessary in the interests of space, and we do not think they will offer any obstacle to readers who have mastered the explanatory Preface. The instance cited by the compilers themselves, "the cryptic form 'Folk, O. 20-26 (H-14)'"—we do not reproduce here the distinguishing varieties of type—is an extreme case; but, even here, any one who has understood the Preface and read the list of abbreviations will see that Folk is in Ohio, and is given in the square H-14 of the map at p. 26 of vol. 20. It is only by such compression that the Index is made to serve as a gazetteer and a dictionary of technical terms as well as an Index of subjects. It even includes Latin phrases, not only legal, such as 'Fieri facias' and 'Nisi prius,' but also philosophical, as 'Sub specie aeternitatis.'

What may trouble some students at first is the alphabetization. The rule is to read the whole name or group of words right through, and place it in the Index accordingly. On this principle, 'Indian Mutiny,' for example, is not placed next to 'India,' but is separated from it by 'Indianapolis' and other names. This rule is not followed in all indexes, but, when once it is grasped, no further difficulty will arise. One must not think of the main subject in a collocation, but look for the first word, and pursue the alphabetical order to the end. Thus, banishing 'Exchequer' from our minds—for we shall not find the reference under that heading—we go plump for 'Red Book of the Exchequer,' under 'Red,' and are rewarded at once. So we shall not discover red deal noted under 'Deal' in the Index, but under 'Red Deal.' This is perhaps carried through in too mechanical a way. 'Young Memnon,' under 'Young,' is surely going too far. Yet it is well to stick to a system, even when it leads to occasional oddities. There might, however, have been an even larger number of cross-references, though there are many. A valuable feature is the inclusion in the Index of the heading articles of the 'Encyclopædia' in a distinguishing type. It tells one at once whether there is a separate article or not, and saves the exasperation of looking for it in vain.

The note insistently printed at the head of every page, that "it is essential to read the instructions given on page 1," is completed by the caustic remark in the

Preface that it is assumed "that the man who consults an index knows what he is looking for and is capable of recognizing it when he sees it." This clears away a good deal of useless criticism. It would be easy to suggest all sorts of different arrangements, other headings, and the like; but the test given above is valid. We have spent a considerable time in looking up different kinds of subjects, convinced that we knew what we were looking for and could recognize it when found, and we met with no failures worth recording. It is true that we had a miscarriage in the humble matter of 'Corn flour,' where the reference to the volume happens to be misprinted, and we found no reference to this uninteresting preparation under 'Maize.' Objection may be taken to the method of classifying some branches of the subject under the substantive and others under the adjective, though this is in accordance with the rule of alphabetization of titles previously mentioned. Thus many things "Irish" are separated from 'Ireland,' and 'Scotonycteris' intervenes between Scotland and a host of "Scottish" institutions, like the 'Scottish Football Union.' It is worse with 'France,' which is fourteen columns away from 'French Sudan,' a subject that has no cross-reference either under 'France' or 'Sudan.'

Where the Index appears least satisfactory is in the general headings, under which numerous sub-headings are or ought to be grouped. It is, of course, a question of selection, and it must not be forgotten that an Index is not a Concordance, and that to crowd it with references to pages which do not add material information would be to destroy most of its usefulness. The compilers were right to insist upon this. At the same time it is surprising to see under the general head of 'Feudalism' no references to the important separate articles on 'Scutage' and 'Knight-Service,' to cite no more. We have noticed a good many of these general headings which might have been more amply filled. 'Secret Societies' is curiously incomplete; for it does not include the Italian Carbonari, much less the Decisi, nor even the Vehmergericht, for which we have to refer to 'Fehmie Courts.' Under 'Italy,' oddly enough, we have an entry on 'drink traffic statistics,' though under 'Ireland,' where these statistics are much more remarkable, there is not a line on the subject. Is this, too, the hand of "the Dictator"?

Oriental names are admittedly a trouble to index-makers, since there is no really standard orthography; but why the 'Encyclopædia' should adopt the spelling 'Mahommed' and 'Mahomedanism' is a mystery. The result is that there is no entry at all under the usual spelling Mohammed; and when we turn to 'Muhammad' we are referred to 'Mahommed,' and under 'Mahommed' we are told once more to turn to 'Mehemet Ali' if we wish to find the references dealing with Mohammed Ali, the Viceroy

of Egypt. The names of contributors to the 'Encyclopædia' are indexed in a somewhat arbitrary fashion. Some are wholly omitted, even when they occur in a family biographical article.

Such omissions and inconsistencies, however, are trifles in comparison with the general excellence of the work, which reflects the highest credit upon the editors and their staff, and must have involved immense labour as well as great gifts of co-ordination.

One conspicuous feature is disagreeable to the present reviewer, the hideous thumb-cuts in the front edge to facilitate turning over. He is not in the habit of turning over pages with his thumbs, but prefers the appropriate index finger. Others may find the system a convenience.

The Diary of Dr. John William Polidori, 1816, relating to Byron, Shelley, &c. Edited and elucidated by William Michael Rossetti. (Elkin Mathews.)

In publishing his uncle Polidori's journal (April 24th–December 30th, 1816)—which the diarist himself, by the way, was with difficulty restrained by Hobhouse from printing in 1820—Mr. W. M. Rossetti makes tardy amends for the scant measure of justice heretofore dealt by biographers to the memory of Byron's body-physician. In the standard 'Lives' of Byron and Shelley, Polidori presents a pretentious, touchy, and altogether ungracious figure. He is drawn as conceited and ill-humoured, apt to thrust his feeble rushlight into notice between those two great literary stars, and quick to resent when others objected to take him at his own valuation. No doubt Byron's estimate of his travelling companion is substantially correct: though "not a bad fellow," he was "very young and hot-headed—was always in squabbles, and had no kind of conduct." But of the jealousy of Byron's intimacy with Shelley, as alleged by Moore, not a trace appears in these frank pages—which, on the contrary, show the writer's instantaneous and rapid advance to a footing of the closest familiarity with Shelley, Mary Godwin, and Jane Clairmont.

Polidori was, in fact, not yet of age when he went abroad with Byron (April, 1816), having graduated in Edinburgh the year before as Doctor of Medicine at the notably early age of nineteen. His diary shows that he lacked self-knowledge and self-reverence, as well as self-control; but it reveals him also as an ardent book-lover, ambitious of literary distinction, and an intelligent student of art (he had, says his nephew, a "considerable native gift in sketching faces and figures with lifelike expression"); as capable, moreover, of passionate friendship, while rapid and clear-eyed—perhaps, like most young folk, a trifle severe—in his judgments of men and women.

After parting from Byron (September 16th) he travelled alone through Italy till the close of the year, when he returned to England and practised for a while at Norwich. Here his good looks are said to have stirred the calm pulses of Harriet Martineau. Eventually he returned to his father in London, and read for the Bar.

"In August, 1821, he committed suicide with poison—having, through losses in gambling, incurred a debt of honour which he had no present means of clearing off."

That he drank prussic acid was well known to his family, but the coroner's jury were content to return a verdict of "death by the visitation of God."

On his father's death in 1853 Polidori's journal passed into the hands of his sister Charlotte, who in 1870 destroyed the MS., having first copied it out with the omission of one or two passages which she deemed unfit for preservation. Mr. Rossetti, to whom the MS. had been lent when he was preparing the 1870 edition of Shelley's poems, recalls two of the suppressed entries which concern the amours of Byron and the diarist.

When Polidori was talking of printing his journal in 1820, Byron assured Hobhouse that it could not contain anything about him at once true and interesting—a statement confirmed by a perusal of these pages, though it must be borne in mind that they are printed not from the original, but from Charlotte Polidori's transcript. In April, 1816, Murray had promised Polidori 500*l.* for a journal of his tour with Byron; but this arrangement presumably fell through when, in the September following, Byron and he parted—not (as Polidori notes at the time) "upon any quarrel, but on account of our not suiting." Shortly before this he had had a long explanation with Shelley and Byron about his conduct towards the latter. Horses had been a subject of quarrel twice, Berger, Byron's Swiss servant, having charged Polidori with laming one. (Polidori appears to have acted as treasurer to the party, and on June 6th he checked Berger's accounts.) Polidori adds, concerning this "explanation," that he had "threatened to shoot Shelley one day on the water." Anyhow, the three-cornered interview ended satisfactorily, and Byron and his physician remained better friends than Moore implies. Byron followed Polidori's career with interest, and took pains to find him employment. In its present form, at any rate, the diary adds nothing of importance to our previous knowledge of Byron.

On the subject of Shelley and Mary Godwin Polidori enlarges; but his account of the poet abounds in errors, due perhaps, as the editor suggests, to his inveterate habit of "romancing." The circumstances of Shelley's marriage, for instance, are set forth thus (May 30th):—

"Thinking he was dying, [Shelley] married a girl for the mere sake of letting her have the jointure that would accrue to her;

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recovered; found he could not agree; and separated."

On June 18th we find:—

"He married; and, a friend of his liking his wife, he tried all he could to induce her to love him in turn."

At what precise date Shelley and Mary became aware of Jane Clairmont's relations with Byron we cannot tell. A letter of Jane's, written apparently just before Byron's departure from England (April, 1816), states that Mary knew nothing of their intimacy—not even that Byron had ever heard of her name. Medwin says that the intrigue was conducted in the strictest secrecy, and that "for a long time neither the Shelleys nor Polidori were privy to it." How far this statement was true concerning the Shelleys it is impossible to say; but in regard to Polidori it was certainly untrue, for under May 27th he notes in his journal:—

"Dined; [Percy] S[helley], the author of 'Queen Mab,' came; bashful, shy, consumptive; twenty-six [Shelley was in fact but twenty-three]; separated from his wife; keeps the two daughters of Godwin, who practise his theories; one L[ord] B[yrone]'s."

These words can only mean (what indeed was the fact) that Shelley supported the two ladies referred to, both of whom set at naught the laws of marriage, while one of them—Jane Clairmont, to wit—was Byron's mistress.

On June 2nd Polidori took Shelley's infant son William to be vaccinated, receiving from the poet, in acknowledgment of this service, a gold watch-chain and a seal, now unfortunately lost.

In his account of the ghost-story competition Prof. Dowden relates the oft-told story of Shelley's sudden access of terror during the recital by Byron of the lines in 'Christabel' describing the witch's breast; and he adds that it was just after this incident that Byron threw out the challenge, "We will each write a ghost-story"—a proposition to which all present agreed. Polidori's Diary shows that this version of the matter is not quite correct.

Under June 17th occurs the earliest direct reference to the competition: "The ghost-stories are begun by all but me." On Monday, June 17th, that is to say, Byron, Shelley, Mary, and Jane Clairmont had each begun, severally and independently, to compose a tale of the supernatural; the issue being Byron's fragment of 'The Vampyre,' first published with 'Mazeppa' in 1819, and Mary Godwin's 'Frankenstein.' Shelley's and Jane Clairmont's attempts came to nothing. Byron's scheme was suggested, not by Shelley's seizure, but by some volumes translated from the German, entitled 'Fantasmagoriana,' an anonymous collection of ghost-stories, assigned by Barbier to J. B. Ben Eyriès.

Under June 18th Polidori notes:—

"My leg much worse. Shelley and party here. Mrs. S. called me her brother (younger). Began my ghost-story after tea. [This was subsequently published under

the title of 'Ernestus Berchtold.'] Twelve o'clock, really began to talk ghostly. Lord B. repeated some verses of Coleridge's 'Christabel,' of the witch's breast; when silence ensued, and Shelley," &c.

Here follows an account of Shelley's seizure, referred to above.

Thus it appears that Byron's recital from 'Christabel,' with its startling sequel, so far from introducing the notion of the competition, actually took place at the least twenty-four hours later. While we are dealing with ghost-stories, we may add that, in his lengthy Introduction to the Diary, Mr. Rossetti successfully vindicates his uncle from the old imputation (revived by Dr. Garnett in the 'D.N.B.') of having planned or countenanced a literary imposture by ascribing to Byron the composition of his own tale 'The Vampyre,' published by Colburn in *The New Monthly Magazine* for April, 1819. It is pleasant to think that Byron pronounced his physician to be, with all his faults, a man of honour.

NEW NOVELS.

The Beacon. By Eden Phillpotts. (T. Fisher Unwin.)

It is difficult to see how a literary judgment which has hailed Mr. Hardy is to deny Mr. Phillpotts a place next him. The Wessex novelist has deeper subtlety, and greater variety; there is also in him what Bacon said of the most excellent beauty, "some strangeness in the proportion." Mr. Phillpotts might claim greater soundness, greater sanity even, but he must be content to lack the indefinable quality we have mentioned. His work, however, falling short of Mr. Hardy's, is nevertheless a remarkable accomplishment of our times. In breadth and knowledge, in thought, and in sense of character it goes farther than any other work except that of a few whose genius is recognized. It is always a pleasure to read these Dartmoor stories. Mr. Phillpotts may seem in danger of repeating himself, but he never does: he only reproduces the same atmosphere, which is a veritable exposition of the Moor. This time he deals with the north-eastern corner, where Cosden, which some know as Cawsand Beacon, stands up to challenge Mid Devon. This name is merely perfunctory, for the Beacon is artificially imposed upon an engrossing story by spiritual hypothesis. However, that is of no account. The tale in its mingled tragedy and comedy is admirable, and holds the attention. Perhaps, as before, Mr. Phillpotts makes his humble characters talk too much Phillpotts. So did Meredith, and so do Mr. James and Mr. Hewlett. But, however they talk, the people are alive and arresting. One criticism on the heroine we offer, namely, that she should have shown her definite change of affection at least to the reader before the crisis. That sin lies at the door

of the author. Probably he wanted to surprise us. This book ranks high—though not on the exact level of 'The Thief of Virtue' and 'Demeter's Daughter' and 'The Mother.'

The House of Many Voices. By Bernard Capes. (T. Fisher Unwin.)

MR. CAPES opens with a romantic incident of the war of 1870. A young Oxford man, charged with the duty of taking a lady to England, has to leave her, on account of the disturbed state of the country, in a French convent, and is himself snatched up in a balloon, wounded by a shot, taken to Paris and killed there.

News of his doings and the honesty of his endeavour only reaches his grossly misjudging brother for whom he had been taking charge of the lady some thirty years later, for the rest of the story is concerned with a pageant arranged in 1902 by an incompetent Academician who secures to do his work a handsome and dissolute artist. This artist is a thief and steals a famous diamond which nearly leads to the disgrace of the heroine, an old flame of his.

It is, however, impossible to summarize in a brief space Mr. Capes's ingenious and complicated plot, and it would be unfair to give away his chief surprises. In the stranger figures of his drama we cannot believe at all: they seem to have strayed out of a different and inferior sort of fiction. But there is enough of the author's best to make the book worth reading. He can suggest both scenery and character.

A Painter of Souls. By David Lisle. (Methuen & Co.)

AN artist of philanthropic tendencies, possessing a remarkable faculty for discerning the true inwardness of his subjects and reproducing it with disconcerting accuracy, gives a title to this novel. At Rome, he paints an epoch-making portrait of the Pope and moves in a social circle where beauty, wealth, and rank are flung pell-mell in a profusion which reminds us of 'Lothair,' not to say of 'Cordingsby.' There is much discussion of art and economic problems, varied by love-making with its attendant complications. All, in the end, is arranged for the best, only a villainous Russian prince and an English countess of easy virtue being left out in the cold.

Unconfessed. By Maxwell Gray. (John Lane.)

MAXWELL GRAY writes with the facility of a practised hand for the public which is content if a novel can be described as readable. A romancer of the troubled conscience, she describes here no real problem of conduct or character, but chooses such a stagioly obvious theme as a new version

of the prodigal's story. A younger son of blameless past is contrasted with his black-hearted, smugly-prosperous senior, who has ousted him from his inheritance and married the love of his early youth. The death-bed utterances of a departed parent—miser and suspected wrecker—are utilized to supply the suggestion of spiritual tension foreshadowed in the title, while any difficulty of development which the return of the wronged brother might have occasioned is solved by the demise of his elder in a convenient sea fog. The story is pleasantly accompanied by an atmosphere of the countryside and the soft tones of western dialect.

Willowford Woods. By R. Murray Gilchrist. (Ward, Lock & Co.)

THE author is a neat artist in *genre* pictures of country life, especially in Derbyshire, where the action of this book is placed. We find, in consequence, some excellent conversations between rustics. But the main narrative is mere mystery of the ordinary kind, not much like life, and not ingenious enough for the expert reader of sensational fiction. When we note that an old gentleman escapes secretly from a burning house to pose as a dead man in order to deceive his heir, and is secreted in the Dower House of an adjacent Lord, who with his mother has little hesitation in tolerating this evasion, the reader should recognize the type of story before him. It is a popular type, we believe, but hardly, we must think, worthy of the author's talents.

A Prisoner in Paradise. By Herbert L. Vahey. (Stanley Paul & Co.)

It is difficult to imagine that a trader in a settlement on the Malay peninsula would, at the age of 40, be so inexperienced in the soft emotions evoked by sexual sympathy as is Mr. Vahey's hero, but the vigour and interest of the love-story which he unfolds are commendable. The principal incidents of the novel originate in the barbaric desire which seizes the trader at sight of a female half-caste, who seeks his protection for herself and her lover, they having incurred the wrath of a Malayan chief. The trader's service to the lover is akin to treachery, but he wins the girl's love, and finds himself reconciled to a locality and means of livelihood which were loathsome to him before she entered his life. On her account he is kidnapped, and nearly pays the penalty of another man's crime; and separation from her and the supposition that she is dead drive him to follies which culminate in an unhappy marriage. His return to his first love is unconventionally, but pathetically conceived, though some may consider the author's attitude towards "conventions" unnecessarily pugnacious. His Malayan characters are drawn with humour, force, and dexterity.

Margaret Harding. By Perceval Gibbon. (Methuen & Co.)

THIS work is evidently designed to familiarize an English public with the possibilities of Kafir sensibility to the inexorable colour bar enforced by the white. A young lady on a visit to a Karoo Sanatorium for lung trouble there meets various types of English and Dutch humanity, whose marked diversities only serve to accentuate their oneness of aim in protecting any white woman from contact with any Kafir, even though he be an M.B. of London.

The task of showing sympathetically the intolerance in this matter of high-minded men and women is achieved with such success as to cause wonder at the author's failure in securing sympathy for his heroine, whose thoughtlessness with regard to her Kafir friend awakens a wish for retribution.

The novel is a thoughtful contribution to discussion on a difficult subject.

A Big Horse to Ride. By E. B. Dewing. (New York, Macmillan.)

LUGUBRIOUS and bizarre as this tale of a dancer told in the first person is, its display of naive egotism is sufficiently arresting to carry the reader over many annoying repetitions and summaries of preceding chapters. Circumspectness, born of the zeal for physical fitness, confines the offspring of ultravirile parents to a life which can only be compared to a dog's intermittent barking at waves from which it retires when there is a chance of a wetting. There is a good deal of philosophic musing interspersed which is sufficiently obvious, perhaps, to be popular. One brief character-sketch of a battered old warrior stirred by love's youthful fire impresses us more than the other somewhat invertebrate lovers.

Bermadu. By Mrs. R. M. Connolly. (Greening & Co.)

THE value of an unfamiliar setting in sustaining interest in a novel is never more clearly shown than when the author lacks ability to please by constructive skill or by character-drawing at once elaborate and bright. Mrs. Connolly's plot is unconvincing; her female English characterization is marred by crude satire; and, if the setting of her story had been in Bayswater, comparative failure would have been the result. The local colour, similar to that of Mr. Vahey noticed above, is, however, so interesting, that even a critic may read her book with enjoyment. Her heroine is the English wife of an improbable scoundrel with a Malayan paramour who dubs her "Bermadu (one having a fellow wife)." The Malayan beauty has a husband of her own race, and her murder by this man is well and picturesquely imagined. The

pathos of the half-caste longing to be wholly English is effectively presented by her child; and the author pleasingly shows her sympathy for whatever creed has "fallen on the dry heart like rain." The element of humour is supplied by Scotch characters.

VERSE.

MR. EZRA POUND has already become a personality, if a somewhat wayward one, in the world of contemporary verse. In the present volume of *Canzoni* (Elkin Mathews) mediævalism predominates—the mediævalism of Rossetti and Morris, varied by startling bursts of modernity. Though he occasionally roams wide of the strict bounds of metre, it is not from inability to respect them. Elaborate and well-ordered rhyme-schemes, scrupulously worked out, are a distinguishing feature of his verse, and the self-imposed fetters seldom obtrude. We quote the following stanzas from 'The Spear':—

'Tis the clear light of love I praise
That steadfast gloweth o'er deep waters,
A clarity that gleams always.
Though man's soul pass through troubled waters,
Strange ways to him are opened.
To shore the beaten ship is sped
If only love of light give aid.

That fair far spear of light now lays
Its long gold shaft upon the waters.
Ah! might I pass upon its rays
To where it gleams beyond the waters,
Or might my troubled heart be fed
Upon the frail clear light there shed,
Then were my pain at last allay'd.

Mr. Pound enjoys another advantage in that the most hackneyed poetical shibboleths hold something new for him—something denied to the minor poet. The oft-sung theme of sunset, for example, calls forth such a delicate vignette as

The faint damp wind that, ere the even, blows
Piling the west with many a tawny sheaf;

he likens the "gracious ways" of the "Lady of my heart" to

amber torch-flames, where strange men-at-arms
Tread softly neath the damask shield of night,

a picturesque thought, if a trifle obscure in its application; while

The broken Sunlight for a healm she beareth
Who hath my heart in jurisdiction,

is a simpler, but no less beautiful presentment of a similar idea.

The little volume is striking, and should be valued by such as are competent to detect that spark of inspiration whereof the very existence was, curiously enough, scouted by William Morris, with whose earlier work our author has much in common.

Mr. Pound is a visionary with a gift of expression that disdains poetical commonplaces. In consideration of so rare an equipment we are almost tempted to close our eyes to some astonishing lapses. On p. 17 occur the lines,

She was gowned that discreetly
The leaves and shadows concealed her completely;

and on p. 5 "mingled" masquerades as a word of three syllables.

If Mr. Pound is going to do what is expected of him, he must steer clear of the affectations common in the beginner, but hardly to be justified in mature work.

Mr. Lascelles Abercrombie's two tiny volumes *The Sale of Saint Thomas: an Interlude*, and *Mary and the Bramble: a Poem* (published by the author at Ryton, Dymock, Gloucestershire), mark a distinct advance on his previous work. There is still the same studied roughness—or wilful angularity—in the verse, both blank and rhymed, which must needs make for affectation. Such a line, for example, as

Of lives burning up from agoniz'd loam

would hardly, apart from the context, be recognizable as blank verse at all, neither should it be forgotten that English syllable-values merit some consideration from those who wish to write English poetry. The author has, however, gained in restraint—which is by no means the most biddable of the poetical virtues—and restraint is a near neighbour to power. We quote from the striking lines put into the mouth of St. Thomas, as, gazing fearfully at the sea that must be crossed, he seeks justification for evading the Divine command to preach in India:—

and lo, that line
Of gilded water there! The sun has drawn
In a long narrow band of shining oil
His light over the sea; how evilly move
Ripples along that golden skin!—the gleam
Works like a muscular thing! like the half-gorged
Sleepy swallowing of a serpent's neck.

In 'Mary and the Bramble,' which has been out some time, the rhymed couplets and lyrical passages display Mr. Abercrombie's superfluous ruggedness even more notably than does his blank verse. This, however, is a vice of style which may well disappear with time, and need not obscure the poetical promise, welcome and unmistakable, which underlies it.

Poems, by Henry W. Tomes (Dent), contains some meritorious work of an unambitious nature. Perhaps the most distinctive effort, embodying a pleasant conceit gracefully expressed, is to be found in the dedication 'To My Lady,' from which we quote the second and final stanza:—

If Friendship be a Kingdom spacious,
If Love be higher than a Throne,
Why, then the present ages own
As great a Princess, and as gracious!
And we, the Pages of this Book,
Each one according to his measure,
Bring tribute to amuse her leisure
Whenever she shall deign to look.

'The Corner-Stone,' the principal piece in the book as regards length, shows a vaguely mystical idea handled with only moderate success, while in his two 'Sonnets' Mr. Tomes somewhat unjustifiably throws over the various fetters which poetical tradition has imposed on this form of verse, and contents himself with rhymed couplets. The concluding 'Domestic Idyll' entitled 'Monday,' being, apparently, an attempted idealization of what is vulgarly termed "washing-day," deals with a theme transcending the poet's art to-day, and does not convince. Such lines as

That fleet of snowy yachts, whose sails
Swell out before the gales,
And tug their ropes, till foremost place
Shall win the race,

have little in common with the clothes-line they are intended to describe.

Mr. E. Weingardt's volume "*Earth-Drift*": a *Small Book of Verse* (T. Burtleigh), invites comparison in respect of its title, protected though it be by the inverted commas, with the 'Heart-Foam' of the poet Bunthorne, which it will be remembered, its author refused to publish. Mr. Weingardt's poems are mainly descriptive of the varying aspects

of Nature as observed in Ireland, the Highlands, the Pacific, and other localities. Perhaps the best thing in the book is 'The Tarn,' from which we quote the first stanza:

In mid-circle of the forest, where no footfall ever stirs,
There lies a spreading water, dark and still;
Blood-red leaves are blown across it, when October
downs are chill,
Garish growths of many mosses gather round, its
margin to fill,
And its tall and silent guardians are the firs.

"Mid-circle of the forest" is, however, an ambiguous phrase, and we are conscious of a sense of atmosphere striving for expression with but partial success. Sunset, twilight, fir-trees, and the sea evoke in turn the poet's enthusiasm, which runs on well-established lines. Mr. Weingardt needs to realize that, while the language of poetry has unquestionably its mannerisms, it is wisest, when possible, to avoid them.

Pluto and Proserpine: a Poem. By John Summers. (Stanley Paul & Co.)—It seems somewhat late in the day to point out that poetry is not solely a question of rhyme, foot, and metre, yet it is just this most obvious of commonplaces that Mr. John Summers has, in his volume 'Pluto and Proserpine,' failed to realize. His verse throughout is of a sadly pedestrian order, suggestive at times of comic opera recitative; and though painstaking and exact as to quantities and mechanical rules, contains little imagination or promise of better things to come. We quote a typical stanza, descriptive of Pluto:—

Still on he hastens, checking not his steeds,
For soon his visit here must come to end;
And, as his nature no affection breeds,
He not desires his visit to extend.
Even as him his car still onward bears,
He chiefly dwells on nethermost affairs.

A straitly limited poetical future cannot but await the author of such lines as those in Stanza cxi:—

To make her think he could his words attest,
"I know that you are Proserpine," quoth he.
"I am," she most defiantly confessed,
"But what in heaven's name is that to thee?"

The story of Proserpine is well known, we thought, to everybody. The prefatory 'Argument' here setting it forth anew in a naïvely instructive fashion certainly seems a work of supererogation.

ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA: ANCIENT LITERATURE.

IN the department of classical literature in the Encyclopædia, so various, and requiring such special learning, we can heartily congratulate the editors on their excellent performance. Not that we cannot find fault with it, but a just criticism makes much of good points, and only mentions flaws for the purpose of future improvement. On the subject of classical literature the reader turns naturally in the first instance to the treatment of Homer, and here he will find a very able and comprehensive essay from the pen of the late Provost of Oriel, while Mr. J. W. Allen, another high authority, has supplied revisions and additions. The tone of the whole essay is conservative, in the modern sense, and rightly so in our esteem. But for that reason we do not think sufficient weight is given to August Fick's attractive theory that an originally Æolic poem has been done into Ionic by subsequent hands. The editors say boldly that there is no example of such a thing happening in literature. We doubt the

truth of this assertion, for we well remember Henry Bradshaw, the Cambridge Librarian, speaking of this very process in the case of some ancient German poem, which from High German was turned into Low German or vice versa. The feeling that the present 'Iliad' is in a jumble of dialect is one that cannot easily be laid aside.

Another point that seems to us worthy of animadversion is the complete omission of any history of the MSS. of Homer, and specially of the numerous fragments of the text which have been recently found on Egyptian papyri. There is no problem in Homeric criticism so alive and active as that of the effect of Aristarchus and his school on the text; for the scraps we find of papyri earlier than his time show such variations from our vulgate and among themselves that there seems to have been little desire for uniformity in this Bible of the Greeks in earlier times. Some fragments have as many as one in every six additional lines, and though many are mere *Flick-verse*, there are some unknown to us now, as we already could infer from quotations in Aristotle such as *παρ' ἡμῶν θάνατος* in the mouth of Agamemnon. The question whether these papyri are merely bad copies of a sound text, or whether there was no sound text till the Alexandrian critics purified it by their recension, finds no answer in the present article.

On the Latin side, the most striking figures in the articles before us are Cicero and Horace. Both are very well done, but in the bibliography on Cicero we miss a reference to the discussion of Cicero's relations to the Greeks in Prof. Mahaffy's book on 'Greece under Roman Sway.' A whole mass of Cicero's acquaintance has there been treated from references in his speeches and letters which Boissier and others had overlooked. On the other hand, in the general sketch of Greek literature the very late part would seem unduly ample, were it not that this is the part which is not represented by household names, and thus the very part for which an intelligent reader would naturally consult an encyclopædia. We think, however, that there is too much repetition of facts about Homer already given in the special article.

If we were to begin to enumerate things well done, the task would be endless. Still, we think that the classical student should not fail to acquire the great work of Wissowa which we recently reviewed in these columns, for there this peculiar branch is treated exclusively, and hence with a fullness impossible in the work before us.

In the 'Encyclopædia' the bibliographies are good, but capable of improvement by experts. Thus under 'Apuleius' we expect to find the masterly edition of the 'Cupid and Psyche' episode by Dr. L. C. Purser, and some mention of the Oxford translation of all the works by Mr. H. E. Butler; perhaps, also, of the lively article by Mr. Charles Whibley recently reprinted in his 'Studies in Frankness.' It should be noted, however, as Dr. Purser points out, that the style of Apuleius is not so much African, as Mr. Whibley and the 'Encyclopædia' article suggest, as Asianic.

MEMOIRS.

COLERIDGE used to say that any man of honest mind had it in him to write one good book—the story of his own doings and done-untos. *Recollections of an Irish Doctor*, by the late Lombe Atthill (Religious Tract Society), furnishes a case in point. Written by one without literary aptitude, natural

or acquired, but of watchful eye and tenacious memory, the 'Recollections' are interesting as the plain record of a busy life.

Though Irish-born, Lombe Atthill belonged to the "English garrison," fetching his blood from an East Anglian stock long settled in Norfolk. The youngest of fourteen, of whom seven boys and three girls grew up to maturity, he was the son of the Rev. William Atthill, sometime Fellow of Caius and Gonville, who, falling under the influence of Charles Simeon at Cambridge, had gone over to Ireland in 1798 as chaplain to his relative Dr. Porter, Bishop of Clogher. After a six years' tenure of this office, during which his severity led to something like a mutiny amongst the candidates for ordination, William Atthill was presented by his cousin to a living, to which in 1805 he brought his bride, settling down to "the life of a country clergyman amongst a population ignorant to an extreme degree, steeped in poverty, and in truth only half-civilized and liable at any moment to be excited to acts of violence." Here for fifteen years he remained, in a glebe house, small, isolated, and exposed, still showing on wall and ceiling the bullet-marks of a night assault delivered in the rebellion of 1798. Then he moved to another parish with a larger parsonage, where he stayed till his death in 1847; and here, in 1827, his youngest son was born.

Of country life in the Ireland of his boyhood Atthill draws a vivid picture. His father, bred up to agriculture in Norfolk, combined farming with pastoral duty, cultivating an extensive glebe, and effecting, by example no less than teaching, a marked improvement in the primitive, happy-go-lucky methods of his poorer parishioners. Those were, indeed, "grand ould times"—Ireland boasted a population of eight millions, of whom two-thirds subsisted almost wholly on potatoes! Early marriages were the rule; boys and girls of eighteen would wed without any means of support, squatting at a bogside in a one-roomed cabin of peat-sods, and rearing on the produce of a potato-patch, reclaimed from the bog, a brood of *gossoms* and *colleens*, who, ragged and dirty, were yet always merry. If the parents opposed the match, there was a short and simple way of disarming them. Boy and girl would elope together at nightfall to a neighbour's house, where they were invariably made welcome. Presently word would be passed round; the neighbours would assemble, each with a drop of whisky in his pocket, and the night would pass in singing, dancing, and good cheer. Next morning the boy would return to his father's cabin, the girl staying where she was; and the pair would keep apart till the wedding day, for which as early a date as possible was always fixed, for the girl was not suffered to come under her parent's roof till she was married.

William Atthill's household was in great measure self-supporting. There were many mouths to fill—father and mother, ten children, a governess and a tutor, besides butler, coachman, cook, housemaid, and dairymaid; yet nothing was bought except groceries and flour.

"The glebe supplied potatoes, and oats from which meal for porridge was ground. Wheat, too, was grown and ground in a handmill into wholemeal for brown bread, the week's supply of which was baked in a brick oven. The household had dwindled before I left the nursery, but at one time a sheep would be killed nearly every week."

Home-made "dips," "moulds," and rush-lights supplied light in winter, while the only fuel was peat, coal being still unknown in the

northern inlands of Ireland. "I never," writes Atthill, "saw a coal fire till, when ten years old, I passed through Dublin with my parents, on our way to England."

Atthill's childhood was solitary, for five elder brothers were already out in the world, and another brother and a sister were at school. Thus he early became self-sufficing and independent, and continued so all his life. Amongst his childish joys he counted the annual visit, between Christmas and Twelfth Night, of "the Mummers":—

"One of their rhymes has fixed itself in my memory, probably because it frightened me. A boy of thirteen, rather better got-up than the others, with a frying-pan in his hand, would strut into the centre of the floor, and, facing us, would spout:—

Here come I, little Devil Doubt;
Under my arm I carry a clout;
In my hand a dripping-pan;
Money I want, and money I crave;

If you don't give me money, I sweep all to the grave.

These mummeries, he adds, have vanished since the famine days. It may be so in the North, but in Limerick and the neighbouring counties they still survive.

From the old butler, James MacIntosh, Atthill learned to ride, scramble across country, mould leaden shillings, and (dearest pastime of all to the Orangeman) march beneath a flag to the sound of the fife. One of James's doggerels ran:—

A knife and a clod spells Nebby Cod;
A knife and a razor spells Nebby Cod Nazer;
One pair of boots and two pair of shoes
Spells Nebby Cod Nazer, the King of the Jews

Chief amongst childish cates was "boxty bread," consisting of potatoes grated raw and flour in equal parts. This was baked on a griddle into scones weighing quite a pound. An overdose of boxty bread necessitated a curative course of rolling, rubbing, and whisky.

Atthill's first school was at Maidstone. From Enniskillen he travelled to Dublin by coach; thence by steamer to Liverpool, where he took the train to Manchester, and again, to Hull by coach; thence by steamer to Gravesend, and so by omnibus, through Chatham, to Maidstone. This was in the summer of 1840. After two years at Maidstone he was transferred to a famous public school near home, where the teaching was virtually limited to cramming for Trinity College, Dublin. Here he was overworked and unhappy, but contrived while still a junior to introduce the game of cricket. At seventeen he was, at his own desire, withdrawn from school and apprenticed to Maurice Collis, a famous surgeon then on the staff of the Meath Hospital. In July, 1844, he entered T.C.D.

Irish railways were not yet: you reached Dublin from the provinces by stagecoach or canal. "Fly-boats," as they were humorously called, plied on these waterways at a speed of five—sometimes even six—miles an hour where the locks were far between. Not till 1844 was the line opened between Dublin and Drogheda (thirty miles), and even then years were to elapse before the railway was extended to Belfast. Between Drogheda and Portadown, where the line from the North terminated, there was a distance of over fifty miles, which had to be traversed on a "long car."

In the Dublin streets there were as yet no "growlers" (four-wheeled cabs): the old hackney coaches had given place to "jaunting" or "outside," cars, while for wet days and night-service there was a contrivance known as the "inside," or "covered," car—a sort of vis-à-vis on two tall wheels, with a square wooden cover or "head," having in front two tiny windows

between which, outside, the driver was perched, his seat being almost level with the top of the head. This abominable box on wheels survives in the city of Cork to this day, under the apt designation of a "jingle." A Dublin jarvey, interrogated as to the difference between inside and outside cars, replied:—"Begorra, 'tis hard to say, yer honour; but I'm thinkin' that the inside cars has their wheels outside, and the outside cars their wheels inside of 'em"—which was a true, if not quite exhaustive account of the matter. In Atthill's student days sedan-chairs, though on the wane, were not extinct. "Indeed, it is not so long since the last of these was removed from the corner of Hume Street, where it had stood unused for years."

Atthill's first professional post was on the staff of the Fleet Street Dispensary—a charity founded for the relief of the sick poor of Dublin, who were visited at their homes as well as treated in the institution. His experiences in this fever-stricken district were appalling; and, the work being unpaid, he soon applied for and obtained the position of surgeon to the Poor Law district of Geashill, in the King's County (1849). Here things seemed less hopeless; but the famine years (1846-8) had drained the farmers' purses, and his salary was but 80*l.* a year. Private practice there was none, while, the district being large, a horse had to be kept. In September, 1850, he was offered a post in Dublin of much the same emolument as Geashill, and before the year was out he had returned to town.

In a little while he married, settled in Lower Mount Street, and, after some fruitless efforts to obtain a footing in one of the Dublin hospitals, was so fortunate as to be invited to join the staff of the Adelaide Hospital, a small ward being allotted to him for the treatment of obstetrical cases. He at once began to give clinical lectures, which soon attracted students from the other hospitals. These he edited from his rough notes and printed in *The Medical Press*, ultimately collecting them in a volume of which seven large editions were rapidly exhausted in Great Britain, while the work was reprinted in the United States, and also translated into French.

In November, 1878, he retired from the Adelaide on his election to the Mastership of the Rotunda Lying-in Hospital, a responsible position which he held with credit, signaling his term of office by the introduction of certain much-needed reforms, and enlarging the sphere of the institution's activities. After fifty years of strenuous labour, he retired from practice, and devoted the remainder of his life to yachting. He died suddenly in 1910, at the ripe age of 83.

Atthill's closing chapters are devoted to a history of the great hospital with which the best years of his life were associated. The story of its chequered fortunes from 1745—the year of its foundation—to the present day is, on the whole, ably summarized; but towards the close it is marred by an intrusion of the writer's partialities. Certain ex-Masters of the Hospital are singled out for eulogy by name, and their efforts applauded in ardent, if not extravagant terms; while others no less distinguished by their endeavours, and more generous still, perhaps, in their personal and pecuniary sacrifices for the good of the institution, are passed over in significant silence.

Synge and the Ireland of His Time. By William Butler Yeats. (Churchtown, Dundrum, Cuala Press.)—"He was a drifting silent man full of hidden passion, and loved wild islands, because there, set out in the

light of day, he saw what lay hidden in himself." So writes Mr. W. B. Yeats of his friend and co-worker; and this short sentence strikes the key-note of a true appreciation of Synge's life and work. It was of "what lay hidden in himself" that Synge wrote: nothing else interested him, and he had nothing in common with the journalistic school of literature. Of his countrymen he wrote as they really appeared to him, not as he or some one else believed they ought to appear. As he "loved wild islands," so he loved the folk who dwelt there, for in the life of those western peasants he found the depths of his own temperament more clearly mirrored than in the ways of towns. For years he chose to live among the people of the west of Ireland; and he has made them live for us as he found them. In the ruthless sincerity of his work there is no place for idealized types, and many worthy people therefore find him unsympathetic. His peasants are cruel, with flashes of elemental ferocity, sometimes dirty and drunken, generally proud and eloquent, with a keen delight in the colour of language; but always vital, always strongly individual, and to him therefore always interesting and lovable. Mr. Yeats's book throws into strong relief the qualities of temperament which distinguished Synge's work from that of his contemporaries, and will appeal to all who are interested in the personality of one of the most sincere artists that Ireland has produced.

To readers who recollect the war with Russia, 1853-56, its successes, its failures, worst of all those resulting from gross mismanagement, *Memories of the Crimean War, January, 1855, to June, 1856*, by Dr. Douglas Arthur Reid (The St. Catherine Press), will prove of much interest, reminding them not merely of the slow and painful progress of the Siege of Sebastopol, but also of lighter incidents which from time to time enlivened camp life. The author did not see the earlier part of the war, but joined the service as an "Acting Assistant Surgeon" for duty at home in October, 1854. Six weeks after, apparently without question or answer, he was ordered to join the 90th Light Infantry in the Crimea as Assistant Surgeon. It was rather peremptory, but the authorities probably speculated on the natural unwillingness of any man to decline service in the circumstances, and they were no doubt very badly off for medical officers. Be that as it may, their action has now, after many years, resulted in the production of an attractive volume.

The author arrived at Balaklava in February on "a horrible night, bitterly cold and pouring with rain"; and next morning set forth to report arrival and get orders. When he arrived at the camp of the 90th, no one seemed to know anything about him; the colonel was in the trenches, whither he was conducted by an officer, who took him across the open exposed to Russian fire, shot and shell flying about. "Of these unpleasant missiles I took no notice outwardly, though inwardly I had nasty qualms, and I was considerably relieved when we reached Gordon's battery, where I found the Colonel, who gave me a kindly welcome." Dr. Reid made himself at home as well as he could, and had his share of privations, many of which were unnecessarily inflicted on the troops. In proof of this he contrasts the state of the navvies, well provided with food and shelter, their carthorses even well stabled and well fed with hay and corn, whilst the cavalry horses at no great distance were starving. Contrary to the accepted story at home, Dr. Reid considered the

French in as bad a plight as our own men, and even worse. Thanks chiefly to Florence Nightingale and W. H. Russell matters improved, and it is not surprising that Dr. Reid should be displeased with the second part of General Codrington's despatch (of February 25th, 1856?) in which the practice of publishing wholesale news which might assist the enemy is condemned. He had clearly appreciated the debt the army owed chiefly to *The Times* for exposing the mismanagement which was more fatal than the losses inflicted by the enemy, and that service in a measure blinded him to the dangers of publicity. The maps and illustrations, of which there are twenty, deserve praise; the reproduction by Messrs. Hinton & Co. of photographs "from very faded originals" is most successful.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

It is somewhat difficult to disentangle fact from fiction in Col. G. Hamilton-Browne's book *With the Lost Legion in New Zealand* (Werner Laurie). The author tells us that "in the main the facts are all strictly true," but how far the career of his hero has found precedents in the author's own life we cannot say. It is possible that this account of the adventures of Richard Burke as a Colonial volunteer during the Maori wars of 1864-70 has been entirely drawn from Col. Hamilton-Browne's own experiences.

The hero arrived in New Zealand just after the outbreak of the Hau Hau fanaticism, which, conceived with strange stupidity, was turned to the most formidable movement in defiance of British arms. The Hau Haus kept the war alive, and their terrible cruelties stimulated the raising of the Colonial forces which subsequently succeeded in suppressing the revolt. The British general was incompetent to fight natives in their own bush. As it proved later in the Boer War, the methods of regular warfare were not applicable, but General Cameron never learnt this lesson. The result was a protracted campaign, and the loss of valuable lives. No wonder the colonists arose and resolved to undertake the affair themselves. This is the significance of the *Lost Legion* of the title. The story of the war has been often told, and told more graphically than here; but we are interested to read the reminiscences and personal experiences (as we conjecture them) of a surviving soldier.

In his narrative Col. Hamilton-Browne holds the balance very fairly, but we think that in his introductory note he is not only unnecessarily colloquial, but also hardly fair to the stay-at-home Englishman. It is asking more than is just of the present generation to be familiar with the events of a remote Colonial war over forty years ago; and the "big city pot" who "gassed" about "our Empire" was entitled to refer to it in that way, as being himself a single unit in it. Also, one imagines that when he said of New Zealand "we developed the country," he was referring to the British race, just as Col. Hamilton-Browne would be justified in saying "we defeated the French at Waterloo." English home-stayers have their faults, but their narrowness of knowledge in some respects is counterbalanced by a peculiar Colonial narrowness of sympathy, which seems unavoidable in new countries.

The naive style of the narrative has been indicated. The illustrations are equally unsophisticated. One must not break a butterfly on a wheel, and so it is only

with a sense of humour that we quote a characteristic paragraph concerning "that bounder, Te Kooti":—

"Every country in the world has at some time or other produced diabolically cruel villains who have perpetrated horrible excesses and gratified their love for blood. Yet very often these men have been great and brainy ones. Europe has produced Tilly, Alva, Torquemada, Cesar Borgia, and many others. England has produced Cromwell and Judge Jeffreys, India Nana Sahib, and New Zealand in like manner produced Te Kooti. Some of these were men of aristocratic birth, but others, such as Tilly, Cromwell, and Te Kooti, springing from the lower middle class, had first to make their names before they could perpetrate the crimes their souls lusted for."

Such a paragraph is probably unique.

A Study of Sir Thomas Wyatt's Poems. By A. K. Foxwell. (University of London Press.)—This study, which is at the same time a London University thesis for a degree and an introduction to a proposed edition of Sir Thomas Wyatt's poems, is a promising piece of work, on which we congratulate the author. It gives us a strong desire to see the poems themselves as they will appear when edited by Mr. Foxwell. But he will need to take more care with his paleography. It requires very good will to see "Ho," or "Heny" (p. 129) in the fragment on MS. D (the words are *He*, or perhaps *Hy*, and *Henr*), or to see the final *e* in "Maryage," and the hands are certainly not those of boys. D was obviously used as an album, and it should not have been beyond Mr. Foxwell's powers to identify the binder from the roll-stamp used, and to fix the original date in that way. The binding is clearly Berthelet's and among his earliest in gold.

We do not, in fact, accept Mr. Foxwell's very ingenious reconstruction of the chain of ownership of the volume. We think also that he is somewhat too severe on the person who disfigured MS. E. It was a mathematician who asked of 'Paradise Lost,' "What does it prove?" and the poor man—a Welshman, by the way—did nothing worse than fill up all the blank spaces—margins and all—with his sermons and mathematics and exercises. We do not see the advantage of devoting space to the readings of two MSS. dating from 1810 or thereabouts, probably as inaccurate a period as any in our history. They have no more authority than a print of the same date. The most they can supply is ground for conjecture as to what was in the unidentified MS. the copyist had before him. We shall expect with some interest Mr. Foxwell's future work. His reconstruction of Wyatt's "Chaucerian" prosody, founded on the edition of 1526, is a valuable piece of criticism.

In Different Keys. By I. A. R. Wylie. (Mills & Boon.)—This collection of short stories is unequal, but has its attractions. The book can be read by snatches, and no story occupies the reader for an hour. The style often affects to be brilliant, but wants that grace which Horace Walpole rightly distinguished from style—the quality of Virgil as contrasted with that of Swift. There are also too many impossible adventures on glaciers and in deserts, so much so that the present reviewer would guess without knowledge that the writing was a woman's. The persistency of the motives of the actors seems to us also somewhat exaggerated. Many of them spend years pursuing one fell purpose, but, when the moment of accomplishing it arrives, they find that they have made a mistake, that the humane in them

overpowers the relentless desire of vengeance, and so the soft points in our nature win the battle against stern justice or even high principle. On the whole, the moral lessons conveyed are sound, and the book is healthy in tone, in spite of the forgeries, betrayals, &c., in which it abounds. The colouring which the author prefers is that of India or Germany or the Alps. There is not much English life in the book, though most of the actors are English. The story which pleases us best is the last, which is laid among strolling actors.

La Fleur des Histoires Françaises. Par Gabriel Hanotaux. (Paris, Hachette).—It has been a pleasure to read this little book, written by one of the foremost Frenchmen of the day amongst the pressure of more serious work, to interest the youth of his country in its history and traditions, and to inculcate in them that true patriotism which consists in sympathy with its achievements in the past and its hopes for the future. The debt that civilization owes to France can hardly be overstated, and patriotic Frenchmen may well be proud of their nationality. M. Hanotaux's work is in no sense a history; it is rather an attempt to disengage from all the fields of French activity the secret of its national life. He describes first the physical geography of the country, its soil, its rivers, its climate, and the successive races which have inhabited it, and shows how these have contributed to the growth of "la patrie française"; he traces the national spirit in their battles, their expansion, their propaganda. In the chapters that follow the triumph of this spirit is followed through the Middle Ages, the Reformation, the Classic, Philosophic, and other ages down to the present, closing with an eloquent exposition of the French ideal. All this is written with the elegant simplicity and directness which is characteristic of the best French writing, with a certain quality of added intensity befitting its audience. English people may be recommended to read this charming little book for the insight it will give them into the character of our neighbours.

Les Anglais à Paris, 1800-1850. Par Roger Boutet de Monvel. (Paris, Plon).—The author of this most interesting book writes with an understanding of the friendly spirit which has generally animated English people towards France, except in the heat of war, and, indeed, with a certain reciprocity of sentiment. He has studied the history of the successive invasions, friendly or otherwise, of France during this half-century in documents both public and private, and, though his book is intended for the public of his own country, we on this side of the Channel may thank him for sending us back to many of the diaries and books of travel from which he quotes. It is pleasant to feel that, though we have often been subjects of wonder and satire to our French neighbours, our wars have left behind them no such lasting impressions of hatred as in the case of other nations. The successive waves of invasion here described are those which followed the Treaty of Amiens, the collapse of Napoleon, and the later period when Lady Morgan and Lady Blessington were describing France to the reading public of England till the time when Thackeray took up the task.

The early part of the book describes the life of the prisoners in France during the Napoleonic war. After the Treaty of Amiens was signed, a great number of Englishmen took the opportunity to visit a country

which had been closed to them for years. Suddenly Napoleon declared war on England, and arrested all the British in the country, on the pretext that those between 16 and 60 were liable to serve against him in the Militia. It is said that over 7,000 were arrested, of whom hardly 700 escaped. The prisoners were ordered to settle in little provincial towns assigned to them, and were finally concentrated in two or three, of which Verdun was the chief. The life there was strange—the only obligations were the daily report to the Governor, and the payment of one's debts; the outside world was completely cut off, and the time was passed in sport, play, the theatre, with an occasional duel and an occasional escape, till at last release came with the fall of Napoleon in 1814. The invasion of 1815 opens a new chapter. Among the invaders the English and the Russians were favourably distinguished by their conduct from their German allies. The Highlanders aroused especial interest, and it is from this time that the time-worn joke in French papers as to the kilt in a gale of wind dates. Parisian society in the early days of the Restoration was more English than French. M. Boutet de Monvel's description of it touches lightly on many well-known names. Chapters follow on the two literary ladies above mentioned who aroused much interest in France, and on the English colony in Paris and the Anglomans. Much use is made of Capt. Gronow's 'Reminiscences,' T. Raikes's 'Journal,' and other contemporary sources, and considerable space is devoted to an appreciative and entertaining study of Thackeray in France. The book is illustrated by a number of portraits of notabilities of Anglo-French society, and can be confidently recommended to those who care for a study of our grandfathers as seen in a dry light by an Anglomane of the twentieth century.

FRÄULEIN ADELHEID VON SCHORN's first volume (for there seems to be some prospect of a continuation) on *Das nachklassische Weimar* (Weimar, Gustav Kiepenheuer) deals mainly with the period of the reign of the worthy Karl Friedrich (1828-53) and his high-minded consort, the Russian Grand Duchess Marie-Paulowna, whose advent Schiller had welcomed with a famous cantata so far back as the year 1804. The book (which has some interesting portraits) does not make any literary pretensions, and is in part a frank compilation from previous works. But the author, whose father for many years filled the place at the head of the art life of Weimar formerly occupied by Goethe's friend Heinrich Meyer, and whose mother was a von Stein and at one time lady of honour to the Grand Duchess, was born and bred in the friendly little Athens on the Ilm, where everybody's life and doings were open to everybody else. Thus her account of the life of the Court, whose reputation as a literary centre the Grand Duchess, though neither a woman of genius nor, perhaps, at heart even a woman of letters (see some of the entries in the diary of her devoted Chancellor von Müller appended to this work), unintermittently strove to keep up, is supplemented by many notes on its theatrical and musical, and even its political, history. For Weimar, too, had its revolution (conducted mainly by the Jena students) in 1848, though it was only the following year that brought Wagner into the arms of Liszt. But these things are well known, and the picture of Weimar's busy still-life, which Thackeray drew with perhaps more humour than taste in 'Vanity Fair,' hardly needed a replica.

There is, however, one chapter of Fräulein von Schorn's volume which extends beyond its general range of years, and to which no reader will turn without painful interest. Under the title 'Goethe's Relics' we have here, together with a few passing glances at the eccentric, passionate, and prodigal character of "Ottilie," the daughter-in-law whose high spirit did so much to cheer Goethe's old age, the melancholy story of her sons. From first to last, the weight of the great name which they had inherited proved more than they could bear. Both had good abilities, but their earlier education was mismanaged by their mother; and Wolfgang, the younger, had to be taken away from Schulpforta, where not the work, but the cold discipline, was intolerable to him. Walter took to music, but neither Mendelssohn, under whom he studied at Leipsic, nor afterwards Liszt felt able to encourage him in the exercise of his talent. "Wolf" was, after some wanderings, attached to the Prussian embassy at Rome, where he did good service, and was subsequently Secretary of Legation at Dresden. In the end, both brothers, as well as their mother, most of whose later years had been spent in Vienna, returned to Weimar, where they inhabited a portion of the Goethe house, in straitened circumstances. After her death in 1872 they still lingered on—part of the house being let, but the Goethe rooms remaining closed, except on very special occasions. Wolf had cherished a literary ambition, nourished by a modest early success; but in his latter days it had concentrated itself upon Renaissance studies (a treatise about Bessarion had, after much difficulty, been published on commission about 1870), and finally upon the bibliography of mediæval Italian libraries. So he died, at home in Weimar, in 1883, in his forty-seventh year, a man of much learning and culture, and of blameless character, but hopeless and joyless—confessing that the course of the world had passed him by, and that it had never fallen to his lot "really to live, really to be." His elder brother Walter followed him after two years; he had become like a shadow, only now and then shyly flitting across the street. Yet he was held in honour and esteem; and the Grand Duke Karl Alexander was his constant visitor. Thus the last of those who bore Goethe's name died, in a corner of his house. But the house itself, in which the grandsons had been too poor to live in comfort, Walter left with all the poet's collections, and a sum of ten thousand dollars for maintenance, to the Weimar State. A nobler and, for all its simplicity, a more pathetic testament was never drawn up than that printed in Fräulein von Schorn's Appendix.

The Monk and the Hangman's Daughter is the title-piece in the sixth volume of the 'Collected Works of Ambrose Bierce' (New York, Neale & Co.). The question of its authorship has, we learn, been a subject of discussion, and is here explained in a preface which may possibly have the effect of further mystifying the English reader. Such a one may wonder whether Mr. Bierce's account of his own relation to the story—as the "adapter," twice over, of a translation brought to him in MS.—is not itself fictive matter, like some other "explanatory" matter tacked on to the tale. However, any doubts as to there being a German original may be dismissed. "That brilliant writer, Herr Richard Voss of Heidelberg" was not a shadow, and happily is not yet in the shades, but (despite damage suffered in the field in 1870-1) a very living writer with a long list of works, including a

tale entitled 'Der Mönch von Berchtesgaden.' How much this work may have lost or gained through being first translated by a Dr. Adolf Danziger, who had (in 1890) a "most imperfect acquaintance with the English language," and thereafter twice very freely revised and amplified by Mr. Bierce, who knew no German, we have not taken steps to ascertain. But against the initial amplification, which consisted in loading an airy and spiritual German tale with such a title, we do protest.

The story is of a young monk, pure of heart, but perhaps more simple of mind than was likely or possible, who is sent with two companions to the monastery of Berchtesgaden, which

"we knew was in a wild and mountainous country, covered with dismal forests which were infested with bears and evil spirits; and our hearts were filled with sadness to think what might become of us in so dreadful a place."

The note here struck, as to the character of the country, is more than sustained as the story proceeds, and contributes powerfully to the total effect. Near their destination the party come upon a beautiful young girl scaring the vultures from a corpse on the gallows; and at the same instant the young monk has a feeling that some one is treading on his grave. The girl is the hangman's daughter; and, though her name is Benedicta, she is under a curse, and shunned like a leper by all the villagers. The monk shows her kindness, which gets him into trouble with his superiors. The discipline imposed on him for the fault brings the girl yet further into his life. The end is tragic for both, the result of passion, purity, and ignorance in the young man. There is an occasional sense of unreality, which is due partly to the weakness of his character and partly, perhaps, to the strength of Mr. Bierce's style, which is a little too firm, emphatic, and intentional for the theme on its moral side. On the other hand, the story as here "adapted" probably owes much to the adaptor's literary faculty for showing incidents and scenery in sharp relief. It certainly lingers in the memory.

The second half of the volume is taken up with a collection entitled 'Fantastic Fables.' Some of these are variants of Æsop, and seem intended to prove that there is always an alternative issue or comment to be drawn from the familiar situation. Here the Fox, rather than own that there is anything in the world he cannot eat, coolly alleges that the grapes are beyond his reach. The Tortoise, on arriving at the goal, is told that the Hare, whom he had passed asleep by the wayside, really arrived long ago, and had gone back to cheer him on. Of those in which Mr. Bierce has not the collaboration of an ancient classic, only a minority are excellent. Many are but small verbal witticisms (nearly always cynical) dramatically elaborated; while others are good enough ideas done to death by an unusual combination of heavy-handedness and dexterity. Still, a small collection of choice things could be made from this book. Light-handed and illuminating is this, from the early British pages of *Fun*, 1872-3:—

"An Ass wandering near a village in the evening saw the light of the rising moon beyond a hill.

"Ho-ho, Master Redface," said he, "you are going to point out my long ears to the villagers, are you? I'll meet you at the crest and set my heels into you."

"So he scrambled painfully up to the crest and stood outlined against the broad disc of the unconscious luminary, a more conspicuous ass than ever before."

Later, and purely American, is this upon 'Environment':—

"'Prisoner,' said the Judge austerely, 'you are justly convicted of murder. Are you guilty, or were you brought up in Kentucky?'"

The Records Unrolled: the Story of the Most Ancient MSS. of the New Testament. By E. S. Buchanan. (Ouseley.)—The purpose of Mr. Buchanan is to extol the pre-Vulgate, or "Western Text," which is found in the Old-Latin and Old-Syriac MSS. and in the Codex Bezae. We are told that

"the Old-Latin has all the excellencies of our Authorised Version—its vividness, its variety, its colour, its strength of phrasing, and exquisiteness of rhythm; the Vulgate of Jerome, in its emendations of the Old-Latin, has all the faults of our Revised Version, a slavishly literal adherence to a deteriorated and harmonized Greek text, a lack of variety and colour, a great regard for Grammar, and an almost equally great disregard of rhythmic and idiomatic expression."

Mr. Buchanan is troubled by the fact that the textual problem was a simple matter to Jerome, who believed that the "pristine purity and Apostolic primitiveness" of the original Greek were preserved in the current Greek MSS. of his day; and, further, Mr. Buchanan is compelled to ask why Greek MSS. should be entirely exempt from the corruptions found in Latin MSS. He describes his own examination of the Fleury Palimpsest, which serves him as a touchstone for other texts. There is only one-fifth of the text of Acts in the Palimpsest, and, after using it as a touchstone, Mr. Buchanan concludes that

"without in any way claiming that the Revised Text is faultless, it can be righteously claimed that, tried by the tests of antiquity and universality, it contains the Apostolic words in a purer, less curtailed, less altered form than does the Revised Greek Text of Westcott and Hort, on which is founded our English Revised Version."

No attempt is made to state and examine the canons by which Westcott and Hort worked, and these eminent scholars fail, like Jerome, to satisfy Mr. Buchanan's critical or uncritical tastes. He thinks that he is on safe ground when he asserts that fourth-century copies in Greek, Latin, and Syriac bear witness to the fact that the Gospels as we have them in our Authorised Version are in all essentials the same Gospels that left the hands of the Evangelists; and he finds himself at home when setting forth the platitude that the number of the Evangelists has always been four. "But whence came they," he asks, "to be four and no more?" His answer is that "the Holy Spirit of God determined that number, and raised up four chosen instruments to give to the world for all time four histories of the manifestation of the Son of God."

'The Records Unrolled' is almost as much a pious tract as a disquisition on the value of the Western text. We are informed that "every word in the autographs was plenarily inspired by the Holy Ghost," and also that "could we find a copy of St. John's Gospel written by the evangelist's own hand, every word of that copy would be the inspired Word of God." We are reminded that our possession of the version of Holy Scripture bequeathed to us by the martyrs of the Reformation brings responsibility, and these questions are asked: "What of the rationalism in our midst; what of the cavillers even among those who call themselves the ministers of Christ?"

THE "Centenary Edition" of Dickens is all but completed, but there is always room for a new issue of the great master of life and humour, and that started by Messrs. Nelson with *The Pickwick Papers* and *Nicholas Nickleby* should win the popular regard. The familiar illustrations are included, and the blue and gold binding is comely. There is always a difficulty in

getting such long books as Dickens's into a single volume; but here it is satisfactorily solved, as the paper used, though thin, does not show the printing on the reverse side to any appreciable extent, and the type itself is clear and readable. Altogether the volumes are decidedly cheap, and show how far modern methods of production have advanced when one remembers the price and appearance of the old "Charles Dickens" edition.

An issue of *Pickwick*, in 2 vols., in the same firm's "Sixpenny Classics," is convenient for the pocket or knapsack of the tourist. Here, also, the type is very readable.

The Dickensian will observe that neither of the editions of 'Pickwick' have the striking Preface by the author. This is a distinct loss, and we wish that the publishers could have arranged for its inclusion. Could they not at least secure the right to add to their set of promised volumes, 'Edwin Drood,' without which the corpus of Dickens's novels is certainly incomplete?

'THE COLCHESTER HISTORICAL RECORD.'

MR. AND MRS. ERNEST N. MASON have been engaged for twelve years in collecting materials for 'The Colchester Historical Record.' This work is on a more elaborate scale than anything that has been previously attempted on behalf of any other town, and includes the collection of portraits, illustrations, and descriptive matter of everything of historical interest connected with the borough.

We publish two lists of desiderata which the authors, after making wide research, have been unable to secure.

Portraits.

John Burton, antiquary.
James Eyre, composer, d. about 1770.
Rev. Henry Jenkins, antiquary, d. 1874.
William Clarke, civil engineer and inventor, b. March 17, 1821; d. 1880.
Sir Francis Jobson, landowner and M.P., d. 1873.
Sir John Shawe, M.P. for Colchester 1861, d. 1860.
Sir Walter Clarges, Bt., M.P. for Colchester, d. 1706.
John James Hall, artist, d. 1834?
Henry Jeffery Bushby, Recorder of Colchester, and metropolitan police magistrate, d. 1813.
Edward Carey, M.P. for Colchester, d. 1692.
Sir Thomas Franks, M.P. for Colchester, 1885.
Sir Thomas Cook, M.P. for Colchester, d. 1709.
William Gore, M.P. for Colchester 1710.
Stamp Brooksbank, Director of the Bank of England, and M.P. for Colchester, 1727 d. 1754.

Illustrations.

Colchester Castle before 1680.
St. Botolph's Priory before 1648.
St. John's Abbey Gateway before 1642.
Any of the Gates to the Town Walls of Colchester.
The Crutched Friars Monastery, Colchester.
The Grey Friars Monastery, Colchester.

If any of our readers are able to supply these wants, or have sketches, engravings, or portraits of historical interest connected with Colchester, their kind interest would be much appreciated by the authors, who can be addressed at Tolleshunts, Queen Street, Colchester.

The 'Record' will be divided into sections and published by subscription. The publication will be limited to 200 sets of four quarto volumes at five guineas each, comprising 500 illustrations. It has already been taken up by many important libraries, but a few copies are still to be had, for which application should be made to the address given above.

'THE CAMBRIDGE HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE.'

ALTHOUGH the reviewer of vol. vii. of 'The Cambridge History of English Literature' has said some very kind things about my contribution (chap. xvi.), he has been over-extreme to mark what is amiss. He says "a writer who talks in the same breath of the careers of John Dee, Walter Kelly, Simon Forman, Dr. Lambe, William Lilly, and Elias Ashmole as viewed with horror by many suggests suspicions of his competence." In the narrow limits of a single chapter it is sometimes necessary to "talk in the same breath" about people to whom one could severally devote a volume, and, under these circumstances, the fact that they are mentioned individually and not in general terms ought to prevent any misconception. In any case, the reviewer has hardly realized the mental attitude of the witch-period. Any one who has carefully read all the English seventeenth-century attacks on witchcraft will agree with me that each of these men is mentioned or alluded to by those who believed in communion with the Devil, and that even in characters so different as, say, Edward Kelly (his Christian name is rectified in the 'Corrigenda' at the end of the volume) and Ashmole a class of controversialists saw the same cause of alarm, though manifested in a different way.

I should not have demurred at the "findings" of this otherwise favourable critic, if his misunderstanding was not likely to mislead readers of his review. For the same reason I might point out that my chapter is not entitled 'The Witch Controversy Pamphleteers,' but 'The Advent of Modern Thought in Popular Literature,' and deals with broadsides, satires, and pamphlets on administration, politics, education, and morals as well as with demonology.

H. V. ROUTH.

** We cannot discuss with Prof. Routh the extent of our reviewer's reading. The career of Dr. Dee was that of a great mathematician and scholar, of Ashmole that of a scholar of less eminence. Kelly was a false coiner and a swindler, Forman a pimp and a poisoner, Lambe was little better, Lilly was a quack. Such careers are not similar. Prof. Routh's argument on p. 369 is perfectly sound in the main, but the introduction of these names, and the coupling of them, was entirely unnecessary, and, in conjunction with the double negative employed, only weakened the force of a plain statement.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Comfortable Words for Christ's Lovers. Transcribed and edited by the Rev. Dundas Harford, 1/6 net.

The visions and voices vouchsafed to Lady Julian, recluse at Norwich in 1373. Hundred and Seventh Report of the British and Foreign Bible Society, 1910-1911, 1/

For the year ending March, 1911, with Appendix and a List of Subscribers and Benefactors.

Oesterley (Rev. W. O. E.) and Box (Rev. G. H.), The Religion and Worship of the Synagogue: an Introduction to the Study of Judaism from the New Testament Period, 7/6 net.

Second revised and cheaper edition. A study of Judaism by Christian scholars of the Church of England.

Law.

Jacobs (Herbert), Stevens's Elements of Mercantile Law, 10/6

Contains new chapters on "Companies" and "Arbitrations," by F. Porter Faussett, and on "Stock Exchange Transactions," by B. W. Devas, and an appendix on "Patents, Trade Marks, and Copyright." Fifth edition.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Annual Report of the Director-General of Archaeology for 1908-9.

Part I. Administrative. From the Government Printing Office, Calcutta.

Parsons (Catherine E.), All Saints' Church, Horseheath, 5/ net.

Deals with the structure, church furniture, the monuments, advowson, valuation, the rectors, and the charities, with plates of the Alington monument, the font, &c., and a plan of the church.

Ward (John), The Roman Era in Britain, 7/6 net. Illustrated.

Poetry and Drama.

Erthe upon Erthe: the Middle English Poem.

Printed from twenty-four manuscripts. Edited, with introduction, notes, and glossary, by Hilda M. R. Murray, and two Appendices.

Forth (Lawrence), Sonnets and Songs, 2/6 net.

Huckfield (Leyland), A Legend of the Rose, and other Poems.

With the exception of two or three this is the first presentation of these poems to the public.

Ren (Hope), Garden City Folk Plays. The Passing of Baldr: a Winter's Mystery. Part I., Odin the Watcher; Part II., Forlorn Gods, 6d. each part; Dawn: a Folk Miracle Play, and The Dweller in the Body: a Mystery Play, 1/ net each.

Shakespeare's Poems: Venus and Adonis, Lucrece, The Passionate Pilgrim, Sonnets to Sundry Notes of Music, The Phoenix and Turtle, 2/6 net.

Edited by C. Knox Pooler. In the Arden Shakespeare Series.

Bibliography.

Wigan Public Libraries.

Quarterly record. Edited by Henry T. Folkard, assisted by F. H. Mee, E. Lea, and J. A. Hall.

Political Economy.

Cunningham (W.), The Case against Free Trade, 2/6 net.

Includes a preface by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, and treats of such themes as Imperial Duty and Free Trade, the vaunted success of Free Trade, its shortsightedness, misconceptions about the Big Loaf, the mechanism of Society, Free Trade finance, injurious tactics, conscious co-operation within the Empire.

Fisher (J. Alfred), Railway Accounts and Finance, 10/6 net.

An exposition of the principles and practice of railway accounting in all its branches. Third edition.

Studies in History, Economics, and Public Law: Vol. 39, No. 2, Political History of New York State during the Period of the Civil War, by Sidney David Brummer, 12/; Vol. 40, No. 1, A Survey of Constitutional Development in China, by Hawking L. Yen, 4/; No. 2, Ohio Politics during the Civil War Period, by George H. Porter, 7/; No. 3, The Territorial Basis of Government under the State Constitutions, by Alfred Zantinger Reed, 7/; Vol. 43, No. 2, Education and the Mores, a Sociological Essay, by F. Stuart Chapin, 3/.

Edited by the Faculty of Political Science of Columbia University.

History and Biography.

Journals of Major James Rennell, First Surveyor-General of India, edited by T. H. D. La Touche, 6/.

Memoirs of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. III., No. 3.

Meynell (Alice) and Chesterton (G. K.), Samuel Johnson, 2/6 net.

In the Regent Library.

Poole (Reginald L.), Leopold Delisle, 1826-1910, 2/ net.

From the Proceedings of the British Academy, Vol. V.

Scots Peerage, Founded on Wood's Edition of Sir Robert Douglas's Peerage of Scotland, containing an Historical and Genealogical Account of the Nobility of that Kingdom.

Vol. VIII., edited by Sir James Balfour Paul, with armorial illustrations.

Geography and Travel.

Scott (C. A. Dawson), Nooks and Corners of Cornwall, 2/6 net.

Contains a map.

School-Books.

Bagnall (C.) and Michaut (J.), French Composition, 1/6.

Book II. Graduated Course with Re-Translation.

Kruisinga (E.), A Grammar of Present-Day English.

Vol. IIA. English Accidence and Syntax.

Science.

American Journal of Mathematics, \$1.50.

Edited by Frank Morley with the co-operation of A. Cohen, Charlotte A. Scott, and other mathematicians, Vol. 33, No. 3.

Bevis (J. F.) and Jeffery (H. J.), British Plants: their Biology and Ecology, 4/6 net.

The object of the volume is to fill a gap in the literature of elementary botany. The book is divided into three parts, and is designed as a companion to the elementary text-book and the field flora.

Monographs on Topics of Modern Mathematics Relevant to the Elementary Field, 10/6 net.

Edited by J. W. A. Young.

Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections. Vol. 56, No. 21, Description of a New Genus and Species of Humming-Bird from Panama, by E. W. Nelson.

Stejneger (Leonard), Description of a New Amphibian Lizard from Peru; Descriptions of Recently Discovered Cladocera from New England, by A. A. Doolittle; Notes on Some Fishes of the Genus Amia, with Descriptions of Four New Species from the Philippine Islands, by Lewis Radcliffe.

All from the Government Printing Office, Washington.

Fiction.

Albanesi (Madame), Poppies in the Corn, 6/.

A graceful story on the well-worn but pleasant lines which end in willing self-surrender on the part of the mistress of an impoverished estate to a man of the reserved, strong, unpolished type.

Barr (Robert), Lord Strangleigh, Philanthropist, 6/.

A multi-millionaire appears unable to dispel his ignorance how to make proper use of his wealth without grossly misusing large sums in the process. The complications which ensue provide reading of a very light order.

Bee (Dora), The Man with the Message, 6/.

The message (a belief in Christianity) is given by an Agnostic on his death-bed. He makes his friend, also an Agnostic, swear to deliver it to all those whom the dying man has influenced. The friend reluctantly complies, and, seeing the effect on others, is at last himself convinced.

Bowie (W. A.), An Angel in Ambleton, 6/.

A retired ironmonger and his wife buy a small property in the country. Following a snubbing from the vicarage, the tradesman devotes himself to his fellow outcasts, and discovers amongst them a number of rough diamonds.

Crockett (S. R.), The Lady of the Hundred Dresses, 2/ net.

The title is rather misleading, as the heroine's chief claim to recognition is that she is the wife of the somewhat villainous hero, a species of Arsène Lupin with a wider range. A more convincing character is a Scotch lassie. The story is full of exciting incident.

Dickens: The Pickwick Papers and Nicholas Nickleby, 2/ net each.

Illustrated. See p. 243.

Dickens (Charles), A Tale of Two Cities, 1/6.

Cassell's Famous Reward Books, with 1 coloured and 3 black-and-white plates.

Dickens (Charles), The Pickwick Papers, Vol. II., 6d. net.

Nelson's Sixpenny Classics. See p. 243.

Gibbon (Perceval), Margaret Harding, 6/.

For notice see p. 238.

Gray (Maxwell), Unconfessed, 6/.

For notice see p. 237.

Isles (C. H.), Little Signora, 6/.

Describes the trapping of two girls by adventurer, and their life on and around the of Sark.

Parker (Sir Gilbert), The Right of Way, 7d. net.

A volume of the Nelson Library.

Rae (Mrs. Milne), Bride Lorraine, 6/.

To comply with her father's dying wish the heroine marries a man whom she does not love, having already given her affections to a rake. After many vicissitudes however she is disillusioned and the story ends happily.

Sidgwick (Mrs. Alfred), Anthea's Guest, 6/.

The story deals largely with the contrast of two girls' characters.

Stevens (E. S.), The Earthen Drum, 6/.

A volume of oriental stories with coloured illustrations.

Thackeray (W. M.), Works, with Biographical Introductions by his daughter Lady Ritchie, 6/ net each. Vol. XX. Roundabout Papers and the Second Funeral of Napoleon. Vol. XXI. Denis Duval, Lovel the Widower, The Wolves and the Lamb. With illustrations by the author and Frederick Walker and a portrait.

Tracy (Louis), The Silent House, 2/

A story of malignant family feuds. Sensation is piled on sensation, and the atmosphere of excitement well sustained.

Wells (H. G.), The Country of the Blind, and other Stories, 2/ net.

A selection from the author's short stories which he considers worthy of a second reading. No. 16 of Nelson's New Novels.

General Literature.

Alderson (Albert William), A National Millstone and its Removal: a Plea for Sound Finance, 6d.

Suggests that a new body should be created to deal with the National Debt, and that a fixed annual sum should be handed over to the proposed body, which would apply it in the payment of interest on the debt and in amortisation.

Banning (Lieut.-Col. S. T.), Organization, Administration, and Equipment Made Easy, 4/6 net. Eleventh edition. Contains Appendix of Examination Papers fully answered, with references to the official books.

Bierce (Ambrose), The Collected Works of Ambrose Bierce: Vol. X. The Opinionator.

Clay (Arthur), Syndicalism and Labour, 6/ net.

This work should receive a wide attention at the present time as giving much insight into labour problems. But signs of inconsistency and bias are not wanting.

Collison-Morley (Lacy), Modern Italian Literature, 6/ net.

This book traces the history of the literary revival which took place in Italy during the eighteenth century, and which has not yet entirely spent itself. It gives also an account of the principal poets and novelists of to-day.

Destitution and Suggested Remedies; Sweated Labour and the Trade Boards Act, 6d. net each.

A series of manuals, edited by the Catholic Social Guild.

Gate Beautiful, A: the Story of the Ragged School Union and Shaftesbury Society, 1910-11, 6d.

Littlewood (S. R.), The Story of Pierrot, 1/ net.

An attempt to tell, in a simple way, a true story. The purpose is to put before readers some of the heroes and heroines of world-stories. Illustrated.

Notes on Army Signalling, Fifth Edition. A Supplement to the Third Class Army School Certificate Made Easy, 3d. each.

Open Window, The, August, No. 11.

Raper (W. F.), Hints for Soldiers proceeding to India, 3d.

A common-sense health lecture.

Timehri, July, 1911, Vol. I., No. 2 (New Series); The Journal of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society of British Guiana.

Transactions of the Royal Society of Literature of the United Kingdom.

Second Series, Vol. XXX.

FOREIGN.

History and Biography.

Lezioni (Corso di), Carlo Goldoni, 6 lire. Lectures given in 1910-11.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Allgemeines Lexikon der Bildenden Künstler. Edited by Ulrich Thieme.

Vol. V. Brewer-Carlingen.

Political Economy.

Sohm (Rudolph), Die Fränkische Reichs- und Gerichtsverfassung, 12m.

A reprint without alterations.

*. All books received at the Office up to Wednesday Morning will be included in this List unless previously noted. Publishers are requested to state prices when sending books.

tributes some recollections of Paludan-Müller, while Mr. A. C. Benson discusses Bishop Wordsworth of Lincoln. 'An Airship Voyage,' by Mr. H. Warner Allen, is a passenger's description of a journey from France to the Army Balloon Factory at South Farnborough. The Rev. D. W. Duthie writes on 'The Bardon Papers and Mary Queen of Scots.'

MR. STEPHEN SWIFT will publish early in October a new volume of Mr. Wilfrid Blunt's Egyptian Memoirs, to be entitled 'Gordon at Khartoum.' Following the lines of the previous volumes, it consists mainly of an intimate private diary, and will bring his narrative of events to the end of 1885.

THE whole of the limited set of the "Swanston" edition of Stevenson has already been taken up by subscribers. It will include a long preface by Mr. Andrew Lang, and will be published by Messrs. Chatto & Windus.

THE same publishers promise 'Behind Turkish Lattices: the illustrated Story of a Turkish Woman's Life,' by Miss Hester D. Jenkins, sometime Professor of History in Constantinople; 'The Bargain Book,' with illustrations and folding charts by Messrs. C. E. Jerningham and Lewis Bettany; 'Petrarch's Secret,' three dialogues translated by Mr. William H. Draper; and 'Folk Rhymes of Devon,' by Mr. William Crossing.

IN *Scribner's Magazine* for September Mr. Ralph D. Paine writes on 'The Water-Side of Antwerp,' the first of a series of articles on various sea-ports; General Funston continues his Philippine experiences; Mr. Kenyon Cox contributes an analysis of 'Design' in modern art; and Miss Josephine Peabody, the author of 'The Piper,' a lyric, 'Alison's Mother to the Brook.'

MESSRS. SKEFFINGTON will issue in the early autumn a new volume entitled 'The Compleat Oxford Man,' by Mr. A. Hamilton Gibbs, with a Preface by Mr. Cosmo Hamilton.

MR. NORVAL RICHARDSON, author of 'The Lead of Honour,' has written a novel entitled 'George Thorne,' which will appear shortly with Sir Isaac Pitman. The story relates the efforts of an ambitious young man to make a career.

MESSRS. OLIPHANT, ANDERSON & FERRIER announce 'Memories of Two Cities: Edinburgh and Aberdeen,' by David Masson.

THE same firm will publish 'The Road: a Study of John Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress,"' vol. i. by Dr. John Kelman, at present one of the most popular preachers in Edinburgh.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS promise in fiction 'Hardcott,' a story of English life ninety years since by Mr. John Ayscough; 'The Rajah,' by Mrs. F. E. Penny; 'The Parting of the Ways,' a translation of 'La Croisée des Chemins' by M. Henri Bordeaux; and 'The Man with the Black

Cord,' a translation of a work by Miss Augusta Grover which introduces an Austrian detective. Ouida's 'Bimbi' is to appear with eight illustrations in colour by Miss Maria L. Kirk, and 'Tom Sawyer,' with sixteen monochrome pictures by Mr. Worth Brehm.

THE death of Dr. James Guinness Rogers on Sunday last in his eighty-ninth year removes a leader of Nonconformity whose long and strenuous career recalls that of his friend Gladstone, who owed much to his support. As a Congregationalist divine, Dr. Rogers was distinguished for his ardour and sincerity of purpose. He was a frequent contributor to *The Nineteenth Century* and other papers, and edited *The Independent* and *The British Quarterly Review*. He published several books, among which may be mentioned 'Church Systems of the Nineteenth Century,' 1881; 'Present Day Religion and Theology,' 1887; and 'The Christian Ideal,' 1898. His 'Autobiography' published eight years ago showed that, though a great fighter, he was singularly free from personal bitterness.

MR. CECIL CLEMENTI of the Colonial Office, Hong Kong, has prepared an edition of the 'Pervigilium Veneris,' in which are incorporated a new collation of the Codex Salmasianus and the Codex Thuaneus, with facsimiles of these MSS., an Introduction, a re-arranged text with verse translation opposite, and notes. The volume will be published almost immediately by Mr. Blackwell of Oxford.

WE learn that the British Museum Reading Room showed an increase of 1,300 visitors last year, and the average of books sent for was seven volumes daily. The library was enlarged (we fear it would not be correct to say enriched) by over 26,000 books—exclusive of uncompleted works.

WE are glad to hear that full advantage was again taken this year by working-men students of the Summer Vacation Lectures at Oxford. As is well known, the grant made for the purpose by the Board of Education is not sufficient, and many University tutors gave their services gratis.

THE members of the Hawick Archaeological Society have arranged to commemorate next Tuesday the centenary of the death of John Leyden. Minto House, and Cavers are to be visited, as well as the cottage in which Leyden was born in Denholm. At a meeting to be held in Cavers Church, Sir George Douglas will speak concerning 'Leyden: the Man and the Poet.' Border folks generally do not now show much enthusiasm for Leyden's memory. Of the latest biography by the Rev. John Reith only some 40 copies have been sold.

FRIEHRER VON CANSTEIN, Professor of Civil Law at the University of Graz, whose death in his 66th year is announced, was the author of a number of volumes dealing with his subject, including 'Anerkennung und Geständnis,' and 'Lehrbuch des österreichischen Civilprozessrechts.'

Literary Gossip.

In the *Cornhill Magazine* for September, Sir James Yoxall, M.P., writes on the waste of 'Parliamentary Time,' while in 'Shakespeare or X?' Mr. Andrew Lang discusses a new claimant to the authorship of the plays. Under the title 'A Danish Poet,' Mr. Edmund Gosse con-

SCIENCE

PSYCHICAL RESEARCH.

SPIRITUALISM with startling material phenomena of the sort which commended Mr. Sludge the Medium still flourishes, we believe, and there are philosophies heavily laden with words rather than evidence which have their followers, and their miracle-workers. Apart from these, pledged to no individual theories or reasonings, working for no private gain, and frankly recognizing mistakes, the Society for Psychical Research steadily pursues its inquiries, the results of which are subjected to as rigorous an examination as can be devised. The conditions under which these records are produced and the distinguished men and women who assist in their production render it impossible in our view to dismiss with a wave of the hand all the supernatural phenomena laid before us as fiction due to fraud, or to diseased or otherwise inadequate senses.

In Part LXIV. Vol. XXV. of the Society's *Proceedings* just out, Mr. Andrew Lang's 'Presidential Address' of last May is published, and gives a good idea of the position of the Society, and the view of an acute intellect certainly not over-inclined to credulity. Mr. Lang does well in dealing with the question of fairness and bias in judging evidence, a problem, by the by, of which, as an anthropologist, he must have considerable experience. No one is free from bias, and, to put the matter as briefly as possible, those who look long enough are apt to see what they expect or want to see. The safest sort of inquirer, then, argues Mr. Lang, is he who presses his conclusions rather against his wishes than in the direction he prefers.

Mr. Lang goes on to state objections to the paid medium with which most sensible people will concur, and refers, as might be expected, to that ingenious Italian peasant who, after taking in highly respectable and scientific witnesses in the Old World, was suddenly caught by the ankle in the New.

Thus a young American, as it was pleasantly said, solved a problem which had puzzled a great psychologist. Mr. Lang has "never resorted, for scientific or other purposes, to 'them that mutter and peep' professionally," and he proceeds to lay stress on the historical, folk-lore, and anthropological sides of the subject, which show at least that the same sort of delusions have been current for hundreds of years. He hopes that some day "certain world-old world-wide beliefs" will "find recognition," and he credits himself with "romantic prepossessions" as his form of bias. He would welcome an indisputable *Poltergeist*, "an authenticated instance of the queer disturbances and movements of objects, of which history is so full."

He proceeds to point out that the critics of the Society are apt themselves to be grossly inaccurate, e.g., concerning the 'Census of Hallucinations.'

The tremendous question of communications purporting to come from the dead Mr. Lang answers in the negative. Before he can believe, he needs much more evidence than has been produced by means of Mrs. Piper or other recipients, but he declares himself "resolutely credulous" concerning telepathy, on which, indeed, a large body

of evidence has been collected. Although 'Phantasms of the Living' is now, we believe, no longer in print, much of its matter has been transferred to other books. Mr. Lang ends by the remark that it is unfair to expect the phenomena of telepathy to be produced to order.

In the same number Prof. W. F. Barrett has an interesting article on 'Poltergeists Old and New,' in which he refers mainly to recent cases, and generally to Glanvill's 'Saducismus Triumphatus.' It is pointed out that these phenomena are "attached to an individual, usually a young person, more than to a place, or rather to a person in a particular place." A noteworthy point is that the "young person" aforesaid is not infrequently found reproducing some of the phenomena for the benefit of inquirers, but the Professor holds that, though essentially temporary and fugitive, the *Poltergeist*, when once caught, will satisfy "the most skilful and incredulous observer." It is further suggested that the widespread belief in fairies, pixies, &c., may be due to this cause, to which Fetishism among savages has already been ascribed by Mr. Lang. The Professor ends with words which show well the scientific aims of the Society:—

"At present our obvious duty is to collect, scrutinize, and classify these phenomena, leaving their explanation aside until our knowledge is larger."

Other articles in the same 'Proceedings' are 'On the A Priori Argument against Physical Phenomena,' by Sir Oliver Lodge, and 'A Case of Emergence of a Latent Memory under Hypnosis,' by Mr. G. Lowes Dickinson, in which Miss C., the person in question, is described by the doctor who hypnotized her as "perfectly normal, free from any symptoms of hysteria or other nervous disease." Miss C. gave a most elaborate account of people living in the reign of Richard II., and could not, when in a normal state, remember that she had studied the period, or read a novel concerning it except one which was obviously not the source of her information. Later, by means of planchette writing, it was discovered that Miss C. had read in a novel all the details she gave out in a hypnotic state.

"The whole thing had been an elaborate arrangement by Miss C's subconscientiousness of data given in a book she had completely forgotten."

The data were brilliantly reproduced, too,

"not in the order or connection in which they occur in the book, but most naturally and skilfully, as they might actually come out haphazard in a conversation."

Miss C. hypnotized, talked about being in the blue outside of her own body, and in various "planes," in one of which she met the people of the novel. This striking case shows the great danger of drawing false conclusions as to inspirations from outside in supernatural communications.

The best of memories can easily be proved hopelessly weak by consulting a Diary of a year or two back, and good memories, it may be added, seem increasingly rare.

The volume of 'Proceedings' before that just noticed (Part LXIII.) is mainly occupied with some automatic writings purporting to come from the late F. W. H. Myers, 1908-10, which are carefully examined by Sir Oliver Lodge, Mrs. A. W. Verrall, and Miss Alice Johnson. The curious point about these communications is that, though recorded at different times by five different persons, they fit into, and explain, each other, being answers to a question about Lethe put in America and again in this country. The records show knowledge of

Homer, Horace, Virgil, Ovid, and English poetry, and, in the case of one of the recipients, classical knowledge believed to be beyond her, e.g., the quotations "Tu Marcellus eris" and "In Valle Reducta." Most of the fragmentary scripts contain quotations or obvious reminiscences. Lethe is curiously associated with the nightingale, and one passage, "which only I remember which only you forget," is ascribed to a reminiscence of Swinburne's 'Itylus.' It recalls rather to the present reviewer the lines

And if thou wilt, remember,
And if thou wilt forget,

repeated with a slight alteration in the next stanza. They occur in Christina Rossetti's well-known 'Song'

When I am dead, my dearest,

which includes the line

I shall not hear the nightingale.

The same writer has a similar phrase twice in 'He and She,'

Should one of us remember,
And one of us forget,

but the sentiment is, perhaps, too obvious to be notable.

From p. 247 we gather that Mrs. Verrall regards "casiam" in Ovid's 'Fasti' as a substitution by the automatist for "rorem." But "casiam" is the actual text we have been familiar with for years (probably from the Eton selections of Ovid), and will be found in Prof. Postgate's edition of that poet, in 3 vols., 1898. The ingenious suggestions of "cross-correspondence" to account for the word are therefore futile.

This medley of "messages" contains much that is characteristic of the literary tastes of the dead scholar, but otherwise it is sadly trivial and unsatisfactory.

The number also includes a review of 'An Adventure,' which, our readers may remember, describes a visit to the Petit Trianon, and "hallucinatory" experiences there. A careful examination of the story is made with the aid of a map of the site and two photographs, and the conclusion reached is that the ladies do not appear "to have added anything of interest on the positive side of Psychical Research." The reviewer might, however, have added that similar "Retrocognitive Scenes" are on record. See, e.g., Myers's 'Human Personality,' vol. i. p. 594, Appendices, 1903, where a vision of Brian Duppa, a seventeenth-century bishop, is noted as seen in Salisbury Cathedral, the arrangements of the altar being correct for his date, but quite different from what they are at the present time.

The Birds of the British Islands. Parts XVIII., XIX., and XX. By Charles Stonham. (Grant Richards.)—With the publication of these three parts this work has now been completed. The standard has been maintained at a high level to the end, and these volumes are not only in their way models of thorough and conscientious research, but also are written with a conciseness, restraint, and lucidity of style that will be highly appreciated for purposes of reference. Miss Medland's pencil has achieved a notable series of successes, as much in the exquisite softness and delicacy of her touch—and here a tribute is due to the engraver's art—as in the "speaking likeness" of the great majority of her black-and-white portraits.

Parts xviii. and xix. finish the gulls and skuas, and conclude in accepted fashion

with the interesting order of the auks, the divers, the grebes, and the petrels. Nothing here calls for special comment. With reference to the nidification of many of these seafarers we meet with the stereotyped remark that they breed in all suitable situations round our coasts. These statements need a certain amount of qualification, for it is often extremely perplexing to determine the reason why a particular species will frequent certain localities in preference to others, apparently offering equal advantages. We notice that no explanation is suggested of the remarkable disappearance of the Manx shearwater from the haunts with which its name is associated.

Part xx. contains a full index, a long list of subscribers, a bibliography, and a complete glossary of "local" names. These last include the large number of misnomers which make hearsay evidence so frequently misleading. Thus "Blackcap" is applied indifferently to no fewer than seven distinct species, besides the rightful owner of the name. Obsolete terms might have been either omitted or labelled as such, while an added interest would have been given by some information (seldom vouchsafed) as to the part of the country in which each local name pertains. Moreover, since the author has throughout made a feature of discussing the etymology of the scientific and English names of every bird, it would not have been out of place to trace the origin of these always interesting local names. This question is left untouched, e.g., in the case of the well-known "Mother Carey's chicken" for the storm petrel, or the, to us, unfamiliar *alias* "fid-heach" for the raven

THE fact, noticed in a recent report of the Local Government Board, that flies coloured with yellow powder (so as to be recognized later) were greedily eaten by swallows, which certainly had never before seen such insects in Norfolk, does not square with some recent theories as to the significance of animal coloration.

THE death at the age of 69 is announced from Breslau of Dr. Albert Ladenburg, Professor of Chemistry at the University of that town since 1889, and author of a number of valuable works, among them 'Entwicklungsgeschichte der Chemie,' 'Die Kosmischen Konsequenzen der Spektralanalyse,' and 'Ueber den Einfluss der Naturwissenschaften auf die Weltanschauung.'

FROM M. Gonnissiat's observations of Encke's comet on the mornings of the 1st and 2nd inst., Prof. Backlund has computed an improved ephemeris. The comet has now passed its perihelion, but will continue to approach the earth until the end of the first week of next month, when its distance from us will be 1.25 in terms of that of the sun, or about 116 millions of miles. It is now moving in a south-easterly direction in the constellation Virgo, and visible with a small telescope in the evening, passing nearly due south of Venus at the end of the month, and the apparent brightness slowly increasing.

A NEW small planet was discovered by Dr. J. Palisa at Vienna on the night of the 30th ult.

PROF. KOBOLD has published (*Ast. Nach.*, No. 4518) an improved set of elements and ephemeris of Kiess's comet (b, 1911). It was nearest the earth on the 17th inst., and is now diminishing in brightness, but still just visible to the naked eye in the southern hemisphere, situated in the constellation Telescopium, and moving towards Pavo.

THE seventh number of Vol. XL. of the *Memorie di Astrofisica ed Astronomia* of the Società degli Spettroscopisti Italiani has appeared. Prof. Riccò gives an account of a remarkable bolide which was seen at many stations in Italy, Sicily, and adjacent islands on the evening of April 10th. Its apparent size was equal to that of the moon, and its motion from north-east towards the south-west. The mean height was computed to be about 25 miles. Dr. Emanuelli has a note on the solar eclipse of April 17th next, which will be almost complete (perhaps quite for a brief interval) on the north-east of France and Belgium, but at Catania the greatest obscuration will be 0.55 of the sun's diameter early in the afternoon. There are some other papers, and a continuation of the spectroscopical images of the sun's limb as seen at Charkow, Kalocsa, Odessa, and Rome, from January 2nd, 1894, to August 23rd, 1896.

FINE ARTS

History of Rome and the Popes in the Middle Ages. By Hartmann Grisar. Authorized English Translation, edited by Luigi Cappadelta. Vol. I. (Kegan Paul & Co.)

THE first volume of Father Grisar's important work on mediæval Rome comes down to the end of the sixth century, but the translator has conveniently divided

it into three sections, of which the first, reaching to A.D. 476, is before us. The author has undertaken to cover the same ground as Gregorovius in the famous 'History of the City of Rome in the Middle Ages,' which has long held the field, and has almost come to rank as a classic. But the archaeological discoveries of recent years, the critical investigation of the 'Liber Pontificalis,' and the progress achieved by the researches of a host of students of Italian history, have rendered that picturesque work in many respects behind date. The publication of Prof. Lanciani's 'Forma Urbis Romæ' illustrates the advances which have been made in our knowledge of the topography of the city; the old plans, used by Gregorovius, are obsolete.

Of less importance is Father Grisar's complaint that the talented author reflected in his narrative his own views about the union of Italy. So far as the history of Gregorovius was coloured by his interest in contemporary political problems, whatever little it lost in objectivity it probably gained in inspiration. The Jesuit Father makes "the conception of the Church Catholic" fundamental, and the Popes significantly appear in his title. But he has promised not to trench on the Roman Question or the controversies raised by New Italy, and to confine himself to the historian's business of presenting facts. We must acknowledge that he has worked in the spirit of Duchesne; he has subordinated the ecclesiastic to the scholar; and those who do not share his sympathies will welcome and use his book as a valuable and timely contribution to mediæval history.

The main interest of this first instalment lies in the account of the antiquities and early Christian monuments, a field in which the author is perfectly at home. He has followed closely the results of archaeological discovery, and studied the literary sources carefully. We miss a section on the architectural school of Imperial Rome, which, as the investigations of the Commendatore Rivoira have shown, exercised a capital influence on Christian art throughout the Empire. The strength of Signor Rivoira's arguments has been corroborated by his recent study on the Thermæ of Diocletian. Father Grisar devotes some excellent pages to exposing the common error that the destruction of the ancient monuments was due in any appreciable measure to the barbarians. It is true that A.D. 410, the year of the last siege of Alaric, "marks an epoch in the decay of culture and learning, even the gravestones displaying the prevalent lack of inspiration, wealth, and polish." The characteristic language of the epitaphs, as De Rossi has proved from the burial-grounds, died out suddenly just then. But demolition is a different matter. Ancient Rome was not demolished in the fifth, nor yet in the sixth century. The destruction "was the slow work of later centuries, beginning perhaps about the seventh and lasting to the so-called [*sic*] Renaissance, and

Science Gossip.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS announce 'Vine Growing in England,' by Mr. H. M. Tod, with many illustrations. It is contended that modern conditions of culture, due to the experiments of the Marquis of Bute and others, should recover for the industry some of its lost importance.

MR. SAMUEL BURBURY, who died on Friday week last at the age of eighty, had a distinguished career at Cambridge in classics and mathematics, and in later life published 'The Mathematical Theory of Electricity,' 'A Treatise on the Kinetic Theory of Gases,' and a treatise with Dr. H. W. Watson on Generalized Co-ordinates.

PROF. GEORGES DEULAFOY, who died suddenly in Paris on Wednesday in last week, was one of the most widely known medical men in France. He was born at Toulouse in 1840, and distinguished himself in 1869 with an essay on 'Le Morte salute dans la Fièvre Typhoïde.' Professor of clinics at the Necker hospital, he succeeded his master, Prof. Trousseau, at the Hôtel-Dieu in 1896, where he remained until two years ago. Of his many books the best known is his 'Manuel de Pathologie Interne,' which appeared in two volumes 1880-83, and has been translated into many languages.

THE long drought has at last been broken up by storms in various parts of the country, though some districts have, as yet, had very little rain. A feature of the abnormal season is a plague of wasps. Flies, on the other hand, have been comparatively scarce. Observers of trees and flowers will have some unusual things to record.

even well into the latter period." Not only did neglect permit time and the elements to do their work, but also Emperors, Popes, and private persons used the old material for new structures. The Romans were themselves the destroyers of Rome. As for the barbarians, Alaric, Gaiseric, and their fellows, they were too fully occupied in plundering to waste their energies on mere destruction:

"It is almost comic to picture these greedy booty-seekers, forgetting (according to the legend) all that they were in search of, and turning in sheer spite to the demolition of stone walls and blocks of towering structures, and casting down in the nick of time buildings which it had taken thousands of men long years to erect."

The author also points out that the pagan temples had not been to any great extent wrecked in the fourth century, after the triumph of Christianity, and that the passages in the Fathers which seem to imply wholesale destruction are "enthusiastic flowers of rhetoric, and not sober historical facts."

The sketch of the course of the barbarian invasions is summary. The author does not enter into the serious difficulties connected with the second invasion of Alaric in 408-10, nor into the causes of the retreat of Attila in 452, for which he seems to find the influence of Pope Leo a sufficient motive. He is inaccurate when he repeats the ordinary formula that the battle of the Catalaunian Plain "forced the wild warriors to retreat" from Gaul. For the Huns were already in retreat when that battle was fought; the failure of their invasion was decided at Orleans; and they were compelled to fight by a pursuing host. But he is on firm ground when he enlarges on the unity of the Empire; when he shows the incorrectness of the old view that A.D. 476 signifies the beginning of the Middle Ages in the West; and when he defines the constitutional position of Odovacar in Italy. His pertinent remark that, "throughout the development of the new political conditions during the decline of the Empire, all sharp changes were avoided as much as possible, and nearly everywhere the old deep-laid Roman foundations were visible beneath the new construction," is well shown in the conditions under which the Visigoths, Burgundians, Ostrogoths, as well as Odovacar's followers received settlements on Imperial soil.

The Petrine tradition at Rome—in his criticisms of which Lipsius overreached himself—is reasonably discussed and defended. But in the account of the Roman Primacy, although an extreme view is not adopted, we think that the general impression conveyed as to the power of the Bishops of Rome in the fourth century is excessive. The claim of Bishop Damasus was sufficiently far-reaching, but the position which he held in the eyes of the world was far from being that of Leo I. (notwithstanding two decrees on which the author lays stress), and nothing is more difficult and delicate than to trace

the rise of the authority of the Roman See in Western Europe during the first half of the fifth century.

The volume has 79 illustrations, but they are not of marked merit.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL NOTES.

THE 'Survey of Recent Assyriology' (Edinburgh, Otto Schulze & Co.), recently published by Prof. Hope W. Hogg (of Manchester), is a reprint of the *chronique* appearing from time to time in *The Review of Theology and Philosophy*. It deals with the years 1908-1909, and, with its predecessor, forms a fairly complete record of recent Assyriological work. The section on 'Excavations' is necessarily thin, inasmuch as the day of great expeditions on the scale of Layard's, Rassam's, or Smith's seems to be over so far in Mesopotamia itself. Yet more might have been said of Capt. Groz's excavations at Tellah, an account of which could easily have been compiled from the *Comptes Rendus* of the Académie des Inscriptions to which they are regularly reported. They bid fair to equal in interest those of Capt. Groz's predecessor, M. de Sarzec, and perhaps the same may be said of the expeditions of the Deutsche Orient-Gesellschaft to Asshur and Babylon, accounts of which are, as Prof. Hogg notes, to be found in the *Mitteilungen* of the Society. It may, of course, be that the author's object is to supply an index rather than a summary of recent work; but he seems to go beyond this in his section on 'History,' and in any case a slightly fuller account than that he gives would have been welcome. One may point out, for instance, that no complete account of Prof. Winckler's discoveries at Boghaz-keui has yet appeared in English, and the filling of this gap in our knowledge by one so well qualified as Prof. Hogg would have been of great value. With regard to the remark in his 'Prefatory Note' as to the date of the 'Hilprecht Anniversary Volume,' it was published in Leipzig in the latter half of 1909, and reviewed in these columns soon afterwards.

Dr. Édouard Naville delivered an address in June last on 'La Solidarité des Sciences historiques et des Sciences naturelles,' in which he acknowledged the great light lately thrown on his own study of Egyptology by anthropology, zoology, and botany. In the course of this, he takes occasion to break a lance with the Berlin School of Egyptologists and their protagonist Dr. Erman in the old quarrel concerning the supposed Semitic origin of the Egyptian language. Dr. Naville points out, with great show of reason, that Dr. Erman's *dicta* that Egyptian remained to the end a pictographic script, and that all the signs represented consonants only are inconsistent. Anthropology, says Dr. Naville in effect, teaches us that spoken words come before written speech in point of time, and that a written word to primitive man recalls not a thought, but a sound.

Now it is impossible to represent a sound without a vowel, and the fact that the earlier Semitic scripts record consonants only shows what late-comers into civilization the Semitic peoples were. A similar argument is drawn from the hypothesis first put forward by Dr. Naville that the Egyptian language in its earlier stages had neither orthography nor grammatical rules. It would be interesting to see how far this was the case with the cuneiform script at the time when it was pictographic, and also with

the Hittite, when, as will probably soon be the case, some one succeeds in deciphering the Hittite hieroglyphs. Dr. Naville's address was made at the Séance annuelle of the University of Geneva, and has been reprinted by that body (Genève, Albert Kündig). It is well worth reading for its own sake.

In a recent number of *Sphinx* M. G. Daressy, of the Cairo Museum, has an article on 'L'Origine des Mâshauasas,' mainly based on the plaques from Medinet Abu noticed in these Notes for last month (see *Athenæum*, No. 4370, July 29). These Libyans, the Maxyes of Herodotus, were sufficiently powerful when Egypt began to decline to form the backbone of her mercenary army, and to give her a king in the person of Sheshong I., the Biblical Shishak, Solomon's suzerain and the founder of the Twenty-second Dynasty. M. Daressy now seeks to show that the Mâshauasas were of a well-marked ethnographical type, wearing a long tress on each side of the face, a short beard, and a long robe resembling that of the Hittites. He also considers that they were not indigenous to Libya, but were originally Asiatics, who probably settled in Africa during the great invasion of the "People of the Sea" during the end of the Eighteenth and the beginning of the Nineteenth Dynasties. Their name, he thinks, he can decompose into words meaning "Inhabitant of the mountain of Shaua," which may be Mount Amanus in the neighbourhood of Antioch. Thus he explains the preservation by them of Semitic names like Nimrod, Takeloth, and Osorkon, and he points out that the title of Sheshong, which he translates "Chief of the Mountaineers," is the same as that of the Chief of the Assassins who flourished in Lebanon in the thirteenth century of our era, and was known as the "Old Man of the Mountains."

Count Goblet d'Alviella has collected the various papers that he has lately written on subjects connected with the history of religions into three large volumes bearing the title 'Croyances, Rites, Institutions' (Paris, Geuthner). As one of the founders of this new study, his work is extremely interesting, and the space of time these papers cover (1897-1910) show how far the new science has progressed during the last fourteen years. His three-fold division of his subject into hieroglyphy, hierology, and hierosophy seems a little pedantic, and there is little prospect of this nomenclature being generally adopted. Among the best of the essays and reviews in these volumes are those on the decline of Paganism and the period of transition that occurred between this and the triumph of Christianity. Although these were written not later than eleven years ago, they show an excellently clear idea of the events of the period treated, and anticipate to some extent the results of researches made since they were written. The chapter on the 'Mysteries of Mithras,' which is in form a review of M. Cumont's classical work on the last god of Paganism, would prove an excellent introduction to the study. Like M. Cumont himself, however, Count Goblet is perhaps a little too much inclined to seek the origin of the Mithraic worship in the Zend Avesta. Since the discovery of the Boghaz-keui text, it is at least possible that it had a Hittite origin and passed from Cappadocia to Persia proper.

In the current number of the *Revue Archéologique* is an article by M. Jules Maurice on the deity worshipped by the family which he calls "les seconds Flavians," by which he denotes the family of Constantine the Great. He here brings together all

the texts which show that the god to whom Constantius Chlorus and his descendants paid special worship was the Sol Invictus appearing on their medals as the protector of the Roman Empire. He further says that, as a Neo-Platonist of the monotheistic school, Constantius was naturally inclined to Christianity, and also—although this seems hardly to follow—to religious tolerance. It is fairly plain, however, that the worship of the Unconquered Sun, which goes back to the time of Aurelian, had little to do with that of Mithras, with which it is often confounded, though Mithras was looked upon as a power behind the material sun. The proclamation of the Persian god by Diocletian as the *fautor imperii Romani* must therefore be looked upon as in some sort a supersession of the older deity, and both Constantius Chlorus and Julian must have represented a reaction against this. The policy of Constantine still requires elucidation, Victor Duruy's brilliant essay on it in 1880 being now somewhat out of date.

Not unconnected with this is an unpublished text of Cosmas of Jerusalem, Bishop of Maiuma, which Prof. Franz Cumont above mentioned has communicated to the Académie des Inscriptions. It is published in the current number of the *Comptes Rendus*, and shows that in the fifth century the Pagans celebrated during the night of December 25th the birth of the Sun from the Virgo celestis. M. Cumont thinks that it was, perhaps, to combat this belief that Pope Liberius transferred the celebration of the birth of Christ from Old Christmas Day on January 6 to the present date. It is not very clear why it should have the effect desired; but as Eusebius tells us that the legionaries in the time of Constantine had one common prayer which they used indifferently for the Sun, for Mithras, and for Christ, the alteration of the festival may have been only another step on the road of compromise. That this was not outside the traditional policy of the Church appears from Pope Gregory's instructions to the apostle sent to the heathen Saxons that such of their rites and customs as were not irreconcilable with Christianity were to be preserved.

In the current number of the *Journal des Savants* appears the conclusion of an article by M. E. Berteaux on Byzantine art which was begun in April last. In form a review of M. Charles Diehl's work on the same subject, it gives an excellent summary of the studies of other writers on the question, and shows how learned opinion has varied since the late Prof. Wickhoff first announced his theory that the Byzantines derived their artistic tradition not from Oriental, but from Latin sources. As M. Berteaux says, this has now been abandoned "even by Germans," and Prof. Strzygowski, who is Wickhoff's successor, thinks that it must be traced to Persian and especially to Sassanid sources. M. Berteaux, however, agrees with M. Diehl that this cannot be accepted without qualification; and he shows how, even immediately after the transfer of the capital, Constantinople really contained less work inspired by Constantine than Rome, its models being Alexandria and Antioch, while Jerusalem then became the real religious capital of the Empire. It was under Justinian, according to both author and critic, that the buildings of Constantinople became the finest exponents of what we call Byzantine architecture, as shown by the cupola rising from a rectangle which was to be found in the Church of St. Irene. This was, however, founded on Anatolian models, the Church of the Holy Apostles—of which

St. Mark's at Venice is a copy—built by Theodora being itself copied from a church at Ephesus. So far from this style being taken from Persian models, it is shown that Justinian even lent architects to Chosroes during one of the momentary truces between the two Empires to build him a palace at Ctesiphon according to the canons of the *τέχνη ῥωμαϊκή*. The renaissance of Byzantine art, however, took place under the Macedonian dynasty as a reaction, perhaps, from the policy of the Image-breakers, whom they succeeded, and M. Diehl suggests that the first period should be called Imperial and the second Basilian. He distinguishes between its two forms, one, the monastic exemplified at Mount Athos, and the other that attached to the capital. Among other interesting facts he tells us that cloisonné enamel really was Persian in origin, and was brought into Europe under Justinian, while the game of polo was first played in Europe in the Tzicanisterion set out for that purpose by Basil the Macedonian. That it is derived from the Persian game of *Sūljan* he does not dispute.

NOTES FROM ROME.

THE royal shooting forest of Castel Porziano, twenty-six thousand acres in extent, stretches along the coast between Ostia and Lavinium (now Pratica di Mare), with a sea frontage of about ten miles. It was crossed by three ancient roads, the Via Severiana running parallel with the shore, the Via Laurentina leading to Laurentum at a right angle with the first, and a cross-road which led through the forest to Pliny's villa. There were, within the boundaries of the royal domain, three or four centres of life: *Laurentum*, the "cradle of the Romans," now Torre Paterna; the *Vicus Augustanus Laurentum*, the Margate of Rome, now Torre di Piastra; the *Solonium* of C. Marius, now Castel Porziano; and a fourth village, name unknown, discovered a few years ago at La Capocotta. But what made this now lonely coast one of the brightest suburban districts within easy reach from the capital was a chain of villas lining the Via Severiana on the sea side, among which the imperial farm at Laurentum and Pliny's cottage at the *Vicus Augustanus* are best known to students of the topography of Latium. The site of these villas is marked by mounds covered by a dense undergrowth, and by clusters of ilexes and pines. They all had their gates opening on the high road, and gardens descending to the beach. Owing to the combined action of the sandy deposits of the Tiber, and of prevailing winds from the south-west, the sea, which lashed with its waves the terrace of Pliny's cottage, and which once could undermine the bridges and the causeway of the Via Severiana, has now receded, the maximum distance being two miles at Ostia and the minimum seven hundred yards at Torre Paterna.

This is the happy hunting ground which has been chosen by Her Majesty Queen Helena for her archaeological investigations carried out on a strictly scientific basis. Their results are only partially known to students, especially those of the last two campaigns of 1910-11: yet they have thrown a new and interesting light on ancient country life, and the organization of suburban bathing resorts.

We have learnt, for instance, that the ancients objected to sea-bathing in the open: otherwise it would be impossible to account for the presence of hundreds of *thermæ*

maritimæ along the coast, with *piscinæ* and swimming ponds, in which the water was certainly warmed with the usual system of hypocausts and hot-air flues. Some of the basins could accommodate only one family, others a crowd of one hundred to one hundred and fifty bathers. There is no doubt that they were filled with salt water, because no fresh water is, or was, obtainable along the Laurentine coast. It is true that Her Majesty has discovered, three miles inland, a lead water-pipe inscribed with the name of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius; but its capacity is such that it could hardly suffice to quench the thirst of bathers and villa owners. In fact, every villa or cottage laid bare in these last years contains a reservoir for rain-water, which must have been used only for the watering of the gardens or for lower domestic purposes. The problem, the solution of which baffles me still, is, How could the owners of these innumerable *thermæ maritimæ* provide enough sea water to fill the swimming ponds, and to renew the supply from time to time during the great influx of visitors, since their bath-houses lie at a higher level than the sea? The discovery of a double-action hydraulic pump, made at Castronovum (now La Chiaruccia) a sea station near Centumcellæ (now Civitavecchia) may afford a clue towards the unravelling of the mystery. Still, we must remember that the *thermæ maritimæ* at Ostia could accommodate at least a thousand visitors a day, and it would have required an army of slaves to work the pumping department, if such a department existed. I hope to be able to give a satisfactory explanation after next winter's campaign.

Another point of general interest made clear by Her Majesty's successful investigations is this: the *Silva Laurentina*, which now forms the bulk of the Royal Preserves, was used in imperial times for exactly the same purpose, namely, for the use and delectation of the rulers of Rome, and for the entertainment of imperial guests to whom a splendid "partie de chasse" could be offered within an easy drive from the gates of the city. These details have been made clear from the discovery at the *Vicus Augustanus* (Torre di Piastra) of an inscription stating that two officers of the Imperial guild of gamekeepers and foresters (*Collegium Saltuariorum*) had made a present to the Guild itself of a set of "imagines Augustorum nostrorum," marble or bronze busts of their sovereigns, to be placed in the *schola* or meeting room of the Corporation. This *schola* has probably been found. It is a square apartment, with the door opening on the forum or piazza of the vicus, and surrounded by a colonnade of twelve slender columns of bigio morato, which have been found lying whole or in fragments on the marble floor. The inscription, moreover, tells us that the gamekeepers had formed themselves into a *collegium salutare* for the purpose of providing each member with a decent funeral, and a proper commemoration on the anniversary of his death. There is the possibility, therefore, of finding in the outskirts of the village one or more columbaria, which, if their funeral tablets have not been stolen, will enable us to gain a better notion about the organization of this branch of the imperial household. I may add that the tombstone of a "procurator Laurento ad elephantos," and a record in the 'Liber Pontificalis' of the name *Paunaria* given to a section of this land, prove that, besides the great forest in which the wild boar, stags, and deer had free play, there were special farms for the breeding of elephants and peacocks.

Another point of general information gained in the course of these explorations

is that the sea coast of Laurentum may have been in favour with the fashionable and the wealthy for a brief space of time, under Augustus and his immediate successors, but was given up quite soon to parvenus and merchants and retired officers, and the same set of noisy people who haunt at the present day the popular watering-places of the world. To make the analogy more striking, an inscription has been found at LaCapocotta singing the praises of a wealthy Jew, and revealing the fact that a synagogue had been built at Ostia for the use of the Semitic "villeggianti" on the neighbouring coast.

The villa excavated in the spring of the present year lies four hundred yards south of the one in which the celebrated Discobolus was found in 1906. It is a large establishment with living-rooms in one wing and bathing-rooms in the other. It would be impossible to describe it in detail without the help of a plan. Its principal feature is a square peristyle with a fountain in the centre. It shows three periods of construction, the earliest being in the pure reticulated style of the Augustan age, the second in mixed reticulated and brickwork of the time of the Antonines, and the third (and more recent) a patchwork of the third century. Her Majesty has been able to discover the names of the first builder and the last owner of this great country house. The builder belonged to the *Scribonia gens*. His name appears in a fragmentary inscription, which, originally, must have measured fifteen feet in length, and must have been affixed to a great mausoleum, the foundations of which are to be seen near the gate of the villa. Here we have, therefore, another instance of the lavish outlay of Roman patricians on their suburban residences, the Scribonii being already known as the owners of a magnificent country seat at the Squarciarelli di Grottaferrata, on the site of the present Villa Schiboni. Very likely they had more, perhaps as many as there were seasons in the year. The Valerii, likewise, had one for the spring at the Arco Traverentino, another for the summer at the Torre di Messer Paolo; the Quintilii one at Santa Maria Nuova, and a second at Mondragone, without taking into account their bathing lodges at Antium and Bajæ.

The Laurentine villa of the Scribonii became the property of a parvenu at the beginning of the third century. His name appears on a votive altar dedicated to Diana Sylvestris by his caretaker, after his master had recovered from a serious illness. The name Marcus Aurelius Septimius Heracitus Leontius is enough to stamp the man as an ex-libertus, who had gained a fortune in some branch of the imperial financial administration under M. Aurelius and Severus and Caracalla. The caretaker's name is Protagenes.

The best works of art found in these excavations are: a mosaic pavement in black and white, with a coloured parrot in the centre, framed in laurel leaves, and a terracotta frieze with winged figures of Victories holding festoons of fruit and flowers in their hands. The frieze was originally coloured with touches of gilding here and there.

When I published in 1907 the official report on the discovery of the "Villa del Discobolus," a dainty cottage of small size, with living-rooms only for masters and guests, I made two conjectures which later excavations have proved to be well founded. The first was that the absence of such necessary appendages to a private residence as a kitchen, lavatories, pantries, storerooms, and servants' rooms could only be explained

by the existence of outbuildings in a section of the ground not yet explored. These annexes have been found near the gate-keeper's lodge, on the side of the Via Severiana. The other conjecture concerned the statue of the disk-thrower, which, I wrote, must have been placed at one end of a terrace or a portico, or an avenue of boxwood, where his action and attitude would be easily understood. This has been shown to be the case. The beautiful replica of Myron's masterpiece stood at the west end of a magnificent colonnade facing the sea, at the east end of which another pedestal has been brought to light, unfortunately without the corresponding statue. It is a great pity that our gracious Queen was forestalled towards the end of the eighteenth century by another keen investigator of these mounds, Prince Sigismondo Chigi. He seems to have dug everywhere, laying his predatory hands on whatever had a marketable value, even on the lead water-pipes and the cheapest building materials. There is little or no chance of finding an untouched site at present: yet Sigismondo Chigi may have overlooked a corner here and there, such as the one in which the Discobolus lay buried. These former depredations, however, render the Queen's work less exciting, if they do not interfere with the archaeological, topographical, and historical value of her work. This colonnade of the Discobolus affords a case in point. Stripped as it appears of all its marble decorations, it is nevertheless the only existing specimen of a *Porticus Triumphalis*.

There was in old Rome a public garden (the Villa Publica of bloody repute) on the site of the present Church and Convent del Gesù, and partly on the site of the Palazzo di Venezia, enclosed by a four-sided colonnade 5,000 feet long. As it was used for the organization of Triumphs and other pageants and cavalcades, it received the popular title of *Porticus Triumphalis*. When, at the beginning of the empire, the patricians began to cover the hillsides of Tusculum and Tibur and the smiling shores of Antium and Baiæ with their villas, it became the fashion to provide them with a porticus triumphalis, where walks could be taken under shelter from wind, sun, and rain. However, as only a few millionaires could indulge in the luxury of a colonnade 5,000 feet long, the less fortunate satisfied themselves with a covered alley, or a portico a fifth or tenth of a mile long, at the entrance to which tablets were affixed, inscribed with some such notice: "If you walk up and down this colonnade five times, or ten times, you will cover one mile." Several of these tablets have been found, one at Baiæ, one in Hadrian's villa, &c. There is no doubt that another must have been affixed above the entrance of the covered walk annexed to this Villa del Discobolus, the length of which is 99 metres, or the fifteenth part of a mile.

RODOLFO LANCIANI.

Fine Art Gossip.

THE theft of Leonardo's 'Mona Lisa' from the Louvre reported in the press last Wednesday is extraordinary. To profit commercially by the sale of so well-known a masterpiece seems impossible. Is the thief an enthusiast who wishes to keep the picture for his private enjoyment, or did he merely intend to show that the supervision at the Louvre is inadequate? We hope that the latter motive is the true one, and

that the Louvre will not long be without one of its chief treasures.

ACCORDING to a note in the *Cicerone*, the painter of the 'Holbein Madonna' in the Dresden Gallery has been identified by Dr. E. Major. This writer states that the picture was copied from the original for Queen Marie de' Medici (then living in exile in Holland) by Bartholomæus Sarburgh, a well-known portrait painter, who, in 1634, was living at the Hague. The original was then in the possession of Johann Lössert at Amsterdam, and circumstances make it extremely probable that it was then copied by Sarburgh, and that the Dresden picture is identical with the copy known to have been in the possession of Marie de' Medici.

A DRAWING by Holbein, hitherto unknown, is being exhibited in the Basle Museum for a short time. Prof. Ganz regards it as a late work and a portrait of Holbein himself (c. 1538), and will shortly publish an article upon the subject.

In a house near San Giuliano in Venice some frescoes of the early fifteenth century have come to light. Single figures are represented, among them being 'Charity,' 'Temperance,' and 'Fortitude.'

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS's forthcoming publications include: 'Notes on Pictures in the Royal Collections,' gathered and edited by Mr. Lionel Cust; 'Costumes, Traditions, and Songs of Savoy,' written and illustrated in colour and line by Miss Estella Canziani; 'Steinlen and his Art,' twenty-four cartoons, with critical introduction and notes; and 'Stories of the German Artists,' by Prof. Hans W. Singer.

William Blake's 'Marriage of Heaven and Hell,' edited by Mr. F. G. Stokes (in the Smaller Florence Press Books); a modified form of the Florence Press edition of 'The Romance of the Rose,' with illustrations by Messrs. Keith Henderson and Norman Wilkinson; and 'The Sermon on the Mount,' illuminated by Albert Sangorski in a style similar to that of his 'Stevenson's Prayers' of last year, are also promised by the same firm.

THE death is announced of the oldest member of the Société des Artistes Français, M. Charles Louis Gratia. Gratia was born Nov. 25, 1815, and first exhibited at the Salon in 1837, obtaining a medal in 1844. In his youth he was associated with members of the 1830 school of landscape painters, but he is best known as the author of innumerable portraits in pastels. For nearly a quarter of a century he was busily employed in this direction, and nearly all the celebrities of the period sat to him. He came to England about 1848, and remained here until 1864, exhibiting irregularly at the Royal Academy between 1851 and 1864.

DURING the last few days three eminent French collectors have passed away. M. Jean Dollfus, who was 87 years of age, was well known in the art circles of a former generation. Prof. G. Dieulafoy, to whom reference is made in our Science Notes, possessed an important collection of pictures, including many fine Corots. Prince Alexandre Bibesco devoted his life to the formation of a choice library of rare books.

A RIVER landscape by Salomon Ruysdael, a work of remarkable beauty, has been lent to the Haarlem Museum by Dr. Bredius. It was formerly in the Rodolphe Kann Collection.

MUSIC

O Praise the Lord (Gott lob nun geht das Jahr zu Ende), *Wailing, Crying* (Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen), and *Lord, Rebuke me not* (Funeral Ode). Vocal Scores. By J. S. Bach. (Novello.)—There are movements in the works of Bach in which inspiration not being deep, figures, harmonic progressions, cadences, which he used in common with other composers of the day, attract notice, and remind us that the style of the music is old, and differs greatly from that of the present day. We cannot pretend that Bach was always in the vein, and that everything which bears his name is of equal interest and importance. It may seem useless to say this, but many lovers of music think they may enthusiastically admire any work which bears a great name. But if Bach wrote both in and out of season, such was his skill and judgment, that, even in moments of weak inspiration, he could show himself superior to all his contemporaries, Handel excepted.

In the first of the two Church Cantatas, the opening soprano air represents Bach in an ordinary mood: there is nothing actually great in the music. The chorus "My soul, O praise the Lord," displays both strength and dignity, while the duet for alto and tenor was written in a happy moment.

The second Cantata is of a higher character. In the short opening Sinfonia the music is broad and emotional. When Bach wrote his Mass in a minor he used the opening section of the following chorus, 'Wailing, Crying,' for the 'Crucifixus,' and, we may add, intensified its pathos; but in this earlier form it and the rest of the chorus are most expressive. There is a *Larghetto* for alto, which needs a great singer and a sympathetic conductor to do justice to it. The aria "With Jesus will I go," though simple, is striking; it is written for a genuine basso. It is interesting to note (p. 21, line 3) the little phrase or figure which occurs frequently in the accompaniment of the alto aria, and comparison of the words of both arias will explain its recurrence here. This is one of many instances of a similar kind in Bach's Church Cantatas; one might, indeed, say that he was the originator of the representative theme. The Funeral Ode is a grand composition. In the opening chorus the bold basses, the striking harmonies, and the rich polyphonic vocal parts show what Bach could do when he was in real earnest. Further, the music continues to the end of the work in the same elevated style. Of the Cantatas, Mr. John Pointer and Mr. John E. West are editors, and the English versions are by Mr. W. G. Rothery and Mr. Paul England respectively. Of the Ode Mr. E. H. Thorne is editor, while the English version is by Mr. J. Michael Diack.

THE PROMENADE CONCERTS.

SVENDSEN's 'Zorahayda' legend forms a comparatively unimportant addition to the Queen's Hall Orchestra's repertory. Washington Irving's 'Legend of the Rose of the Alhambra' has not sufficient point or incident to lend itself well to musical illustration, and one gathers that it was the opportunity for pictorial effect that chiefly influenced the composer in his choice of subject. However that may be, he has devised

a charming combination of *pizzicato* strings and wood-wind to depict the movement and sparkle of water, and this remained the most vivid and individual feature of a score chiefly remarkable for neatness and facility. The piece was played with much delicacy, and the orchestra were certainly more at home in it than they were in Mr. Delius's 'Paris.' In these fleeting impressions of night, small details of rhythm and colour are of the utmost importance in giving unity to the musical picture of the moods of a great city. Sir Henry Wood's reading sounded too methodical and precise, and little was made of the burst of frenzied gaiety that forms the central climax of the work. The intricacies of Mr. Delius's music must have appeared very puzzling to an audience who had just secured an encore of the facile sentiment of the Intermezzo from 'Cavalleria Rusticana.' The remainder of the programme contained nothing that could not be easily understood, the 'Pilgrims' March' from Berlioz's 'Harold in Italy,' an excerpt from 'Das Rheingold,' and Sibelius's picturesque 'Finlandia,' all being presented with admirable clearness and point. The latter quality did not enter very largely into Miss Adeline Hope's performance of 'Amour, viens aider,' from 'Samson et Dalila,' though in other respects she sang capably enough. Mr. Peter Dawson, the other soloist, was appropriately vigorous in Rossini's 'Largo al factotum.'

The prospects of hearing Strauss's latest work, 'Der Rosenkavalier,' in London, appear at present somewhat remote. In the meanwhile, however, Sir Henry Wood gave us a sample of its quality on Wednesday evening by playing the waltz—or rather, a selection of the waltzes strung together in the form of a concert piece. The result, it must be confessed, is not very satisfactory. It is surprising to find how completely the composer has discarded his own vigorous personality, and assumed that of his famous namesake, Johann. For some of these tunes have all the irresistible swing and gaiety of the typical Viennese waltz in its most finished form. There are some, on the other hand, which suggest that any competent practitioner in the art of dance-making might have written them. The composer has set himself to be imitative, and has succeeded admirably, though whether the result is sufficient compensation for the loss of personality is open to question. The performance might have had more lightness, but it proved very popular with the audience, who insisted on having it repeated. Other features of the programme were Mozart's 'Jupiter' Symphony, and some refined playing by Mr. Arthur Cooke in Scharwenka's pianoforte concerto in a flat minor.

Musical Gossip.

MISS GWYNNE KIMPTON announces a second series of Orchestral Concerts for Young People to be given, as before, in the Steinway Hall, and on the following Saturdays: October 14th, November 11th, and December 9th, and January 27th, February 24th, and March 9th, 1912. The string orchestra, with the exception of the double-basses, played by young ladies, will again be under the leadership of Miss Ruth Howell.

THE Walter Scott Publishing Company, Ltd., announce, as the thirteenth volume of their "Music Story Series," of which Mr. Frederick J. Crowest is editor, the 'Story of the Bagpipe,' by Dr. W. H.

Grattan Flood, who for some years has been investigating the history of the instrument. The volume will contain pictures of pipers and pipes of all ages, and specimens of pipe music by Byrd, Handel, Haydn, and Schubert.

FRAU COSIMA WAGNER, who is now in her 75th year, has published a little work entitled "Franz Liszt, une page de souvenirs par sa fille," in which she praises the noble character and generosity of her father, who did eminent service in helping composers in various ways, notably Wagner.

AN unpublished 'Inno a Roma' by Liszt, written by him at the Villa d'Este, Tivoli, during his later years, is among the autograph manuscripts of the St. Cecilia Library at Rome. It was to be performed by the "Euridice" Choral Society of Bologna on August 20th.

MASSENET's new opera 'Roma' will be produced next February at Monte Carlo, with Mesdames Kousnezoff, Lucy Arbell, Julia Guiraudon, and MM. Muratore, Delmas, and Noté, and at the Paris Opéra in March. At the latter house two new works will be given, namely 'Le Scenio' by M. Bachelet, and 'Ramsès' by MM. Vidal and Camille de Sainte-Croix. Owing to the recent success of the 'Ring' it is probable that a new series of performances will take place in the spring.

Le Journal Officiel announces that M. Albert Carré has been named director of the Opéra-Comique for another period of seven years, dating from September 1st, 1911.

THE German "New Bach-Society" has arranged to hold a Bach festival at Eisenach on September 23rd and 24th.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

MON.-SAT. Promenade Concerts, 8, Queen's Hall.

DRAMA

SHAKESPEARE.

William Shakespeare, by John Masfield, is one of the volumes in the "Home University Library" (Williams & Norgate). The author, a writer of talent, has himself given us striking drama as well as fiction, and his sketch is pleasantly vivacious and decided in its opinions, including a stirring appeal for the proper appreciation and acting of Shakespeare. But a brief book such as this, containing some 240 pages of clear type, demands more conciseness and more appreciation of the essential than Mr. Masfield shows.

Nine pages are devoted to 'The Life of Shakespeare,' so that the author evidently agrees with Prof. Saintsbury in the 'Cambridge History of English Literature' that little is known of the poet. Apart from tradition, here scouted as unworthy of credence, more is extant about Shakespeare which we think of interest than Mr. Masfield relates. He might, at any rate, have referred readers to the two considerable volumes entitled 'The Shakespeare Allusion Book' (Chatto & Windus, 1909), which together amount to over 1,000 pages, or Halliwell-Phillipps's 'Outlines of the Life of Shakespeare,' or 'Shakespeare Documents'

collected by D. H. Lambert in 1904. The paragraphs on the portraits are judicious, but might have ended with the plain statement of what is genuine, and what not. Mr. Masfield goes on:—

"There are, unfortunately, many graven images of Shakespeare. They are perhaps passable portraits of the languid, half-witted, hydrocephalic creatures who made them. As representations of a bustling, brilliant, profound, vivacious being, alive to the finger-tips, and quick with an energy never since granted to man, they are as false as water."

This is pretty rhetoric, but not much else. It certainly does not cover the case of the D'Avenant bust.

In the brief chapter on 'The Elizabethan Theatres' we find the following "obiter dictum":—

"Nearly all boys can act extremely well. Very few men and women can."

The first statement here, we believe, with a longer experience than Mr. Masfield can boast, to be entirely fallacious. Nor is the conclusion that Shakespeare's "women are kept within the range of thought and emotion likely to be understood by boys" much more satisfactory.

The bulk of the book is occupied with 'The Plays,' and here space is wasted by bald summaries of the plots of each in small type. These are, in most cases, unnecessary.

In his comments on the plays Mr. Masfield is always vigorous, and, as a rule, admirably suggestive, writing in a downright manner which does not permit of dullness or any paltering with conclusions. He is particularly good in his appreciation of the country side of Shakespeare. His main thesis is that treachery or other excess caused by some obsession is at the root of most of Shakespeare's drama. This is sometimes overdone, as when "the idea that obsession is a danger to life" is discovered in the words:—

'See now, how wit may be made a Jack-a-Lent, when 'tis upon ill employment.'

He mentions here and there what he regards as the best lines in the dramas, and we are grateful to him for the verdict that "All's Well," a commonly neglected play, "contains much fine poetry." The lines beginning

The current that with gentle murmur glides,

in the 'Two Gentlemen of Verona' (Act ii. scene vii. 25) surely deserve more than a description as a "pretty speech," for they show that Shakespeare in his early days had a wonderful grasp of metrical effect. Surely "the eagle suffers little birds to sing," and the following lines in 'Titus Andronicus' are memorable poetry, yet that title is only awarded here to three other lines in the play.

We had marked many passages as worthy of quotation, but must confine ourselves to one on 'The Tempest.'

"It is easy to interpret the play as allegory. Youth in this country has reason to regard allegory as a clumsy man's way of introducing Sunday on a week day. It is so seldom successful that it may be called the literary method of creative minds below the first rank. Shakespeare's method was never allegorical. The *Tempest* is perhaps no more allegorical than any other good romance."

On the question how far Shakespeare's work recalls his own personal experience Mr. Masfield seems to us very sound. He is less secure in some of his generalizations, e.g., as to the Greek tragic poets ending the action of their plays, in the modern manner, at the great scene. What of the 'Ajax'? On p. 84 Little Dorrit seems to be credited with the gift for early death resident in Little Nell.

The Bibliography, or "Author's Note" figuring instead of it, mentions altogether one edition of the plays, excellent, indeed, but much too expensive for the ordinary purse; one 'Life' of Shakespeare, and two volumes of essays. This seems to us fairly inadequate. Sir Walter Raleigh's 'Shakespeare' in the "English Men of Letters," should certainly have been added, and there are other volumes which an expert could easily select from the general and confusing mass of dull, trivial, or wildly inferential study on the subject.

We have always insisted on the value of Bibliography as an aid to further study, though the point seems too obvious to need comment. In other volumes in this series these aids for the ill-equipped student, particularly necessary in the present crowded world of books, are not mentioned as they should be. The three eminent editors should see to this, which is certainly a part of their business, if they wish the "Home University Library" to be really effective.

Shakespeare: King Henry V., edited by A. J. F. Collins (W. B. Clive) is a recent addition to "The University Tutorial Series," and an excellent piece of work. At the outset Mr. Collins shows a much better appreciation of the facts of Shakespeare's life than the average editor, and his introduction is full of pertinent matter and generally sound in its conclusions. We do not entirely agree concerning the character of Henry V., now, perhaps, modified for Shakespeareans of any subtlety by Prof. A. C. Bradley's searching exposition, but it is a careful piece of work. The historical basis of the play and its indebtedness to Holinshed are well exhibited.

In compiling the notes Mr. Collins has, of course, the advantage of coming after a host of industrious workers. He has, at any rate, done his annotation with excellent thoroughness, and it will stand a rigorous examination.

Our only suggestions are that Shakespeare is his own best interpreter, and might be more often so used here: e.g., on "fear'd" (notes, p. 124) the student might be informed that Shakespeare uses "fear" as to "frighten" in 3 Henry VI. v. 2. "Even-pleach'd" (p. 179) might similarly be compared with the "thick-pleached alley" of 'Much Ado,' i. 2.

Mr. Collins, like most of the world, prints Theobald's famous conjecture concerning Falstaff's end as reported by Mrs. Quickly, whose acquaintance with the Board of Green Cloth can hardly have been extensive. But, while we agree that the conjecture is far ahead of any other explanation of the text, or other conjecture, we think it should have been stated in the Notes that the First Folio has "Table," so that a reduction to lower case of its initial letter is involved.

On some points Warwickshire dialect, now or recently existing, offers useful light. Thus "awkward" (p. 140) is simply "perverse," and we have often heard it so used. "Dout" (p. 164) also familiar to us, in such expressions as "to dout a candle," might be explained as "do out," and compared with "don" and "doff." Such etymologies assist the memory. Finally "kecksies" (p. 179) has the note: "usually 'hemlocks,' but perhaps here used in a more general sense of 'weeds,' as hemlock has already occurred in line 45." "Kecksies," "keek," or "kex" is not confined to hemlock, which is not common in Warwickshire. We have heard it applied frequently to all the hollow-stemmed *Umbelliferae* by a Warwickshire rustic. Mr. Thomas Hardy makes Grandfer Cante say in 'The

Return of the Native,' "I'm as dry as a kex with biding up herein the wind." (Chapter iii.)

The Indexes devoted to Proper Names, and to the Notes will be decidedly helpful in the work of revision.

Dramatic Gossip.

BESIDES the performances we mentioned as part of the full season beginning next week, we may note two adaptations from the German, 'The Concert' at the Duke of York's, a comedy in which Miss Irene Vanbrugh and Mr. Ainley will appear next Monday, and 'The Great Name,' described as "a comedy of sentiment" at the Prince of Wales's, in which Mr. Charles Hawtrey will figure.

PLAYGOERS are looking forward with pleasurable anticipations to the appearance of Sir John Hare in 'The Marionettes' at the Comedy.

THE Globe Theatre is to begin with a short season of 'Le Mariage de Mlle. Beulemans,' played by the company from the Renaissance Theatre in Paris.

'FANNY'S FIRST PLAY' reaches its 150th performance to-day, and is one of the few plays which have survived the trials of the season.

At the Theatre Royal, Manchester, 'The Quality of Mercy,' by Mr. Hall Caine, is to be produced on September 4th.

MR. FISHER UNWIN is publishing in his series of "Plays of To-day and To-morrow" 'The Master of Mrs. Chivers,' by Mr. J. K. Jerome, whose attitude towards the "woman's movement" has caused a good deal of discussion.

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MR. JOHN S. FARMER has now ready in "The Tudor Facsimile Texts" 'The Doubtful Plays of the Third Folio,' with the exception of 'Pericles,' 'Six "Ascribed" Shakespeare Plays,' and 'Six Shakespeare "Foundation" Plays' are in preparation. In each case the books represent facsimiles from the original quartos, without any "touching up" or restoration.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. T.—L.—E.N.M.—J. A. H. M.—C. J.—Received.

C. S. M.—Not suitable for us.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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QUERIES:—Thirteenth—Barry O'Meara—Newman's 'Paul of Tarsus'—South Carolina Newspapers—London Directories of Eighteenth Century—Third Motion of the Earth—Per centum—History of England with Riming Verses—Masonic Drinking-Mug—Charlemagne's Kindred—Lord Chief Justice, Sheriff, and Ventilation—Aishe and Gorges Families—Sir T. Middleton—W. J. Linton—J. Niander—Sir J. Hare—T. Hawes—Hemington—J. Hering—L. Hill—"Burway"—E. Jenner, M.D.—Gyp's 'Petit Bob'—Ingoldsby Legends: Rebus—H. Watkins, M.P.—Loyal and Friendly Society of the Blue and Orange—Vicar of Wakefield—Lord Beauchamp—Bagstor Surname—"Tea and turn-out."

REPLIES:—Maida: Regiments De Watteville and De Rolle—King George V.'s Ancestors—Misses Dennett—Carracciolo Family—Warner—Capell or Abbott—Sir Nicholas Arnold—"De La" in English Surnames—"Vive la Belge"—Johnson and Tobacco—"Swale"—Belgian Coin with Flemish Inscriptions—"Kidkok"—Royal Exchange—"Bed of roses"—Horses' Ghosts—Fives Court—The King's Turnspits—Rev. Phocion Henley—W. M. Thackeray—Touching a Corpse—Fox and Knot Street—Overing Surname—"Castles in Spain"—Stonehenge and Merlin—Charles I.: "Biblia Aurea"—Dumbleton, Place-Name—"Gothamites"—Halfacre Surname—The Pope's Position at Holy Communion—Club Etranger.

NOTES ON BOOKS:—"The Concise Oxford Dictionary"—"Some Supposed Shakespeare Forgeries"—"The Castles and Walled Towns of England."

LAST WEEK'S NUMBER (August 19) CONTAINS—

NOTES:—William Makepeace Thackeray—Wyre Forest Old Sorb or Whitty Pear Tree—Sir William Wallace's Welsh Descent—Shakespeares in the Eighteenth Century—"Pickwick": Estanswill Newspapers—The Lightning's Victim—Viper and Cow Folk-lore.

QUERIES:—St. Clement the Pope and Wyremongers—George III. and the Dragon: M. C. Wyatt—Lecky and Morals in 'Pall Mall Budget'—James I. on Doctors—Johnson and Tobacco—Charles Corbett, Bookseller—"Paris Illustré"—Wellington's Peninsular Campaign—Washington Irving's 'Sketch-Book'—Deeds and Abstracts of Title—Matthew Arnold's French Quotation—"Thespian Telegraph"—H. B. Abbott—G. Affleck—J. Heathfield—French Coin—W. Stephens Hayward—Grand Sharri Tephlia—"Young Son of Chivalry"—G. Edwards: Drawings of Birds—De Jersey Family—Buckeridge Book-plate—Ludlow Castle—"Kidkok"—J. Glen of Demerara—Sir G. Sitwell.

REPLIES:—Cowper on Langford—Gally Knight: "Ipecacuanha"—Emerson, Heine, and Franklin in England—Burning of Moscow—Long Barrows and Rectangular Earthworks—"Tumble-Down Dick"—Dr. Johnson in Scotland—Dickens and Thackeray: Mantalini—"Tout comprendre"—Grinling Gibbons—S. Horsley—J. Hook—T. Hooker—W. Hughes—Vatican Frescoes—"Church Historians of England"—"Bonny Earl o' Moray"—Yews in Churchyards—"Fives Court": Tennis Court—"J'y suis, j'y reste"—Washington Irving's 'Sketch-Book'—Twins and Second Sight—Siege of Derry—Deer-leaps—St. Hugh and 'The Holy Nut'—Campbell's 'Napoleon and the English Sailor'—"Wait and see"—Military Executions—"Blue fish"—"Make a long arm"—The Three Heavens—Bullyvant—Bibles with Curious Readings—Gee Surname—"La Carmagnole"—"Pickwick": Miss Bolo—"But"—"Without"—"Nib"—St. Sabinus.

NOTES ON BOOKS:—"The Oxford English Dictionary."
Booksellers' Catalogues.

THE NUMBER FOR August 12 CONTAINS—

NOTES:—The Water Supply of London in 1641—Quotations in Jeremy Taylor—Chesham Bois Inscriptions—Great Fosters, Egham—"Plump" in Voting—"Bed of roses"—Avignon: Old Railway Notice—T. R. Malthus—Turton=Gordon.

QUERIES:—"Theatregoor"—Horses' Ghosts—"De La" in English Surnames—"Testamenta Eboracensia"—James Holworthy, Artist—Indian Queens, Place-Name—Stonehenge: "The Birth of Merlin"—Water-Colour Artists—Miss Hickey, Burke, and Reynolds—Rev. Phocion Henley—"Vive la Belge"—Washington Irving's 'Sketch-Book'—Fox and Knot Street—Fort Russell, Hudson's Bay—Aldus Manutius—Timothy Alsop—Campbell the Scottish Giant—Aynescombe—Morlena Fenwig.

REPLIES:—Municipal Records Printed—Longinus and St. Paul—"Gothamites"—Londoners—"Gifla"—Halfacre—Apparition at Pirton—Princess Victoria's Visit to the Marquis of Anglesey—King George V.'s Ancestors—Thermometer—Milky Way—Cuckoo Rimes—The Cuckoo and its Call—Gray's 'Elegy'—Authors Wanted—"Tout comprendre"—Elector Palatine c. 1685—Dumbleton—Caracciolo Family—"Tweedside"—Board of Green Cloth—"Water-suchy"—Spider Stories—Saint Just—Corrie Bhreacchan—Grinling Gibbons—Daniel Horry—Deer-Leaps—Royal Exchange—Sampson Family—Irish Schoolboys—"Wimple"—Mummy used as Paint.

NOTES ON BOOKS:—"The Veddas"—"The National Review"—"The Burlington Magazine."
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